

INSIDE TODAY

WORLD NEWS

DEFIANT IRAN



In front of a portrait of the Iranian supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad gestures while speaking during a public gathering in his provincial tour at the city of Shahr-e-Kord, 325 miles south of the capital Tehran, Iran Wednesday June 16, 2010.

Read more on Page A7

SPORTS NEWS

GRAND FINALE



Los Angeles Lakers guard Kobe Bryant shoots during the second half of Game 6 of the NBA basketball finals against the Boston Celtics on Tuesday, June 15, 2010, in Los Angeles. The Lakers won 89-67 to tie the series.

Read more on Page A12

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BP Chief Executive Officer Tony Hayward, left, BP America Chairman Lamar McKay, center, BP Chairman Carl-Henric Svanberg, second from right, and other BP representatives, arrive at the White House in Washington, Wednesday, June 16, 2010, for a meeting with President Barack Obama.

Associated Press

BP says it's sorry – and guarantees \$20B for Gulf

JENNIFER LOVEN

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — BP announced it would not pay dividends this year and agreed to create a \$20 billion compensation fund for victims of the massive Gulf of Mexico oil spill following four hours of intense negotiations at the White House.

President Barack Obama also wrested an apology to Americans from the British oil giant on Wednesday, eight weeks after the Deep Horizon drilling platform leased by BP exploded, killing 11 workers and setting in motion an environmental and economic catastrophe.

The apologetic talk was expected to continue Thursday when company CEO Tony Hayward will face sharp questions from lawmakers at Congress.

Continued on Page 4

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Alabama professor charged in brother's 1986 shooting death

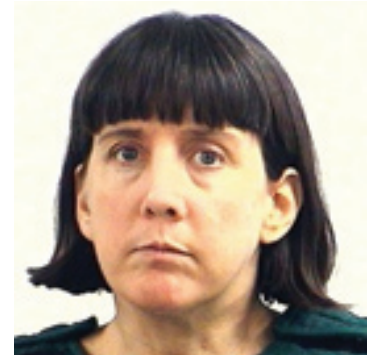
By BOB SALSBERG

Associated Press Writer

CANTON, Mass. — It was “obviously” a homicide case, a former prosecutor says, but authorities didn’t have the evidence to present it to a grand jury at the time.

Twenty-four-years lapsed and three other killings occurred before another prosecutor did. Amy Bishop, the biology professor charged with killing three of her colleagues at an Alabama university, has been indicted on a first-degree murder charge in the 1986 shooting death of her brother in Massachusetts, prosecutors announced Wednesday.

Continued on Page 5



This police booking photograph released by the Huntsville (Ala.) Police Dept., on Saturday, Feb. 13, 2010, shows college professor Amy Bishop, charged with capital murder in the shooting deaths of three faculty members at the University of Alabama in Huntsville.

Associated Press



Kyrgyz soldiers and volunteers check passing cars and search passengers for weapons at a check point on the Uzbek border side on the outskirts of the southern Kyrgyz city of Osh in Kyrgyzstan Wednesday, June 16, 2010. Heavy arms fire rang out over the Kyrgyz city of Osh before dawn Wednesday as authorities struggled to bring order to the country’s south, which has been thrust into chaos by days of deadly ethnic riots. The violence has prompted more than 100,000 Uzbeks to flee for their lives to Uzbekistan, with tens of thousands more camped on the Kyrgyz side or stranded in a no man’s land.

Associated Press

Read more on Page 6

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Funding doubled for bicycling, walking projects



In this photo taken by AP Images for State Farm, Marine veteran Eric Frazier, left, from North Carolina and Army Brigadier General Arnold Gordon-Bray, right, with group of injured veterans bike ride cross the Golden Gate Bridge during the inaugural State Farm "Sea to Shining Sea" 4,000 mile, 63 day bicycle ride across the United States on Saturday, May 22, 2010, in San Francisco. The ride will honor the courage of service men and women and challenge perceptions of how we view athletes. Follow the riders at www.s2ssbikeride.org.

JOAN LOWY

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Obama

administration more than doubled transportation spending on bicycling and walking last year as it seeks to coax

Associated Press

Americans out of their cars, according to a Federal Highway Administration report released Wednesday.

Spending on biking and walking projects rose from less than \$600 million in 2008 to \$1.2 billion in 2009. Twenty years ago, the federal government was spending only \$6 million a year on such projects.

The spending on biking and walking projects was scheduled to rise last year anyway, but the administration boosted it with \$400 million in funds set aside under the economic recovery program.

The new focus on biking and walking represents a turnaround from the administration of President George W. Bush. Mary Peters, transportation secretary under Bush, dismissed biking paths and trails as projects that "really are not transportation," saying they had no place in federal transportation policy.

In March, Obama's transportation secretary, Ray LaHood, announced a policy "sea change" that gives biking and walking projects the same importance as automobiles

in transportation planning and the selection of projects for federal money.

The new policy is an extension of the Obama administration's livability initiative, which regards the creation of alternatives to driving — buses, streetcars and trains, as well as biking and walking — as central to solving the nation's transportation woes.

Biking and walking is on the rise, according to the report, which is based on annual survey data. The number of reported walking trips has more than doubled since the first survey, from 18 billion in 1990 to 42.5 billion in 2009. Bicycling trips saw a similar increase, from 1.7 billion to 4 billion during the same period.

Together, the two modes account for 11.9 percent of all reported trips by Americans. Biking is less than 1 percent of the total.

"Americans want and need safe alternatives to driving," LaHood said in a statement. "By making biking and walking safer and more accessible, we'll be able to provide Americans with more choices and help foster more active, livable communities." □



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Lawyer: Children benefit from gay marriage ban

By LISA LEFF

Associated Press Writer

SAN FRANCISCO—A lawyer for supporters of California's gay marriage ban argued Wednesday in a landmark federal trial that Proposition 8 was constitutional because limiting marriage to opposite-sex couples ensures children have the benefits of being raised by biological parents. Attorney Charles Cooper delivered his closing argument as the case challenging the voter-approved measure resumed after a months-long break.

Cooper said societies around the world have always seen marriage as a way to keep children from being born out of wedlock.

"The historical record leaves no doubt, your honor, none whatsoever, that the central purpose of marriage in all societies at virtually all times is to channel procreative relationships into stable relationships to ensure that offspring that result from those relationships are raised in those stable relationships," Cooper said.

Even as he tried to elaborate, Cooper's statement drew a series of challenges from Chief U.S. Judge Vaughn Walker, who is presiding over the lawsuit filed by two same-sex couples who claim the ban is a violation of their civil rights.

Walker asked if people get married to benefit their communities or themselves. Weren't similar arguments once used to keep interracial couples from marrying? And if procreation is so central to marriage, why doesn't the state refuse to sanction marriage by infertile couples or couples who choose to remain childless?

"It is Orwellian, but isn't that the logic that flows from the premise that marriage is about procreation?" Walker asked. With respect to laws that banned interracial marriage, Cooper said, "those racist sentiments and policies had no foundation in the historical purpose of marriage, and in fact they were at war with it." Earlier in the day, former U.S. Solicitor General Theodore Olson, who represents the plaintiffs, argued that supporters of the ban were trying to deprive same-sex couples of a relationship the U.S. Supreme Court has recognized as a fundamental right.

Olson said the U.S. Supreme Court has repeatedly recognized marriage as a fundamental right — one afforded to prisoners serving life sentences and child support scofflaws — while refusing to make procreation a precondition of marriage, as evidenced by laws allowing divorces and contraception.

"It is the right of individuals, not an indulgence to be dispensed by the state," Olson said. "The right to marry, to choose to marry, has never been tied to procreation."

Judge Walker pressed Olson on that point, noting Proposition 8 supporters have gone to some lengths to argue that gays and lesbians only can have children with help from a third party, unlike opposite-sex couples.

"That is a difference," Walker said. "And why is that difference not one the Legislature or voters could rationally take into account in setting the marriage laws in California?"

Olson answered that sponsors of the 2008 ballot measure could not cite tradition or

speculation that allowing gays to wed would harm the institution of marriage as valid reasons to discriminate.

"We have always done it that way' is a corollary to 'because I say so.' It's not a reason," Olson told the judge.

The judge asked whether he must find that Proposition 8 was unconstitutional if it was based on "discriminatory motive on the part of voters to impose some private morality through the initiative process?"

Olson said the law would be unconstitutional in that case.

"I'm willing to admit there are plenty of good people in California who voted for Proposition 8 because they are uncomfortable with



Andrew Pugno, general counsel for ProtectMarriage.com, right, speaks at a news conference with attorney Austin Nimocks at the University of California Hastings School of Law after closing arguments in the United States District Court proceedings challenging Proposition 8 in San Francisco, Wednesday, June 16, 2010.

Associated Press

gay people, and they are that gay people are just like uncomfortable with the idea us," he said. □



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President Barack Obama makes a statement in the State Dining Room of the White House in Washington, Wednesday, June 16, 2010, after meeting with BP executives.

\$20B FOR GULF**Continued from Front Page**

In prepared testimony obtained by The Associated Press, Hayward expressed contrition for the spill and its effects and said he was "personally devastated" by "these tragic events." He pledged, "We will not rest until the well is under control, and we will meet all our obligations to clean up the spill and address its environmental and economic impacts." The spill has been a major distraction for Obama, who is battling a determined Republican political opposition. Wednesday's announcement was a rare

Associated Press piece of good news.

A new AP-GFK poll showed that a majority of Americans think the president has not handled the crisis well, a significant outcome in the countdown to November congressional elections that could cost Obama his Democratic majority in one or both houses of Congress.

Obama had said he would "make BP pay," and the company's chairman said after four hours of intense White House negotiations that BP was ready.

Creation of the fund — to be run by an administrator with a proven track record — is the first big success Obama

has been able to give to Gulf residents and Americans in the eight weeks since the explosion, a period during which the spill has taken ever more of the public's attention, threatening anything else the president hoped to focus on or accomplish.

Huge as the \$20 billion seems, both Obama and London-based BP PLC said it was by no means a cap.

The deal also adhered to what Obama had said was his non-negotiable demand: that the fund and the claims process be administered independently from BP. It won't be a government fund, either, but will be led by the administration's "pay czar," Kenneth Feinberg, better known as the man who oversaw the \$7 billion government fund for families of victims of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

The April 20 explosion of an offshore oil rig killed 11 workers and sent millions of gallons of crude spewing into the water from the broken well a mile (1.6 kilometers) below the ocean's surface — as much as 118 million gallons (446 million liters) so far and

still flowing. More wildlife, beaches and marshlands are fouled every day, jeopardizing not just the region's fragile ecology but a prized Gulf way of life that is built on fishing and tourism.

Though the company hopes to install equipment soon to capture as much as 90 percent of the escaping oil, the leak is expected to continue at least until relief wells are finished in August.

The use of the BP escrow fund is intended to avoid a repeat of the painful aftermath of 1989 Exxon Valdez oil disaster in Alaska, when the fight over money dragged out in courts over roughly two decades.

"What this is about is accountability," said Obama in brief remarks in the State Dining Room after a four-hour, on-again, off-again White House negotiation session with BP executives. "For the small-business owners, for the fishermen, for the shrimpers, this is not just a matter of dollars and cents. ... A lot of these folks don't have a cushion."

On the driveway outside, BP Chairman Carl-Henric Svanberg apologized for "this tragic accident that should

never have happened."

"We care about the small people," he said.

That comment wasn't as well-received as the promise of compensation.

"We're not small people," said Justin Taffinder of New Orleans. "We're human beings. They're no greater than us. We don't bow down to them."

Added Terry Hanners, who has a small construction company in Gulf Shores, Ala.: "These BP people I've met are good folks. I've got a good rapport with them. But BP does not care about us. They are so far above us. We are the nickel-and-dime folks of this world."

Asked about the remark by Svanberg, who is Swedish, BP spokesman Toby Odone told The Associated Press in an e-mail that "it is clear that what he means is that he cares about local businesses and local people. This was a slip in translation."

In creating a victims' compensation fund, BP will set aside \$20 billion worth of assets from its U.S. operations and retrieve them as it makes cash payments to the fund.

Svanberg announced the company would not pay dividends to shareholders for the rest of the year, including one scheduled for June 21 totaling about \$2.6 billion. The company will make initial payments into the escrow fund of \$3 billion this summer and \$2 billion in the fall, followed by \$1.25 billion per quarter until the \$20 billion figure is reached.

Aware that a healthy BP is in everyone's interest, Obama gave a plug for what he called "a strong and viable company" — a day after he had accused it of recklessness.

BP shares gyrated as the events unfolded.

They rose more than 5 percent to \$33 after Obama's words of support. □



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Police: NY jail guard kills ex-girlfriend, uncle

FRANK ELTMAN

Associated Press Writer

EAST MEADOW, New York (AP) — An off-duty jail guard shot and killed her former girlfriend outside a hospital, then went to a relative's nearby home, where she killed her uncle, wounded her 88-year-old grandfather and took a niece hostage, police said Wednesday.

Kim Wolfe, 43, also was briefly hospitalized after she complained of difficulty breathing but was later released back into police custody. She is suspected of fatally shooting Stacie Williams, a 45-year-old maternity ward nurse's aide at the Nassau University Medical Center, sometime after 1 a.m. local time Wednesday. Wolfe and Williams had been through a "romantic, intimate relationship," but then split up, police said.

They met early Wednesday outside the hospital to discuss a possible reconciliation, but at some point the discussion turned violent and Wolfe opened fire with her 9 mm pistol, striking Williams several times, Nassau County Police Commissioner Lawrence Mulvey said at a news conference. It was not immediately clear how long the couple had been together, nor the reason for their split, Mulvey said.

ALABAMA

Continued from Front Page

Prosecutors who originally concluded that Bishop accidentally killed her 18-year-old brother, Seth, now say police failed to share important evidence, including an alleged carjacking attempt by Amy Bishop after the shooting. They reopened the case after Bishop was charged in February with gunning down six of her colleagues at the University of Alabama-Huntsville, killing three.

Norfolk District Attorney William Keating said he did not understand why charges were never brought against Bishop.

"I can't give you any explanations, I can't give you excuses, because there are none," he said. "Jobs weren't done, responsibilities weren't met and justice wasn't served."

Bishop had told police who investigated her brother's death that she accidentally shot him while trying to unload her father's 12-gauge shotgun in the family's Braintree home. Her mother, Judith, the only witness to the shooting, confirmed her daughter's account to police.

U.S. Rep. William Delahunt, who was then the Norfolk County district attorney, said that

Wolfe then drove to a home 3.5 miles away in Hempstead, where police say she began arguing with her grandfather Marshall Williams Sr.

Wolfe's 56-year-old uncle, Michael Williams, tried to intervene and was fatally shot in the chest, police said. Marshall Williams was then shot in the leg, authorities said.

Afterward, Wolfe ordered her 23-year-old niece at gunpoint to come with her, Mulvey said.

Wolfe and the niece started driving toward Atlantic City, New Jersey, but made several phone calls back to the Hempstead home during the trip. A Hempstead police officer responding to the shooting picked up one of the calls and then, in consultation with hostage negotiators, persuaded her to return to Hempstead.

She was arrested at about 5:45 a.m. Her niece was released unharmed.

Wolfe was scheduled to be arraigned Thursday in connection with the shooting rampage. It was not immediately clear whether she had a lawyer; specific charges were to be announced at the arraignment.

Stacie Williams, who wasn't related to Marshall and Michael Williams, worked

at the hospital for 23 years, hospital spokeswoman Shelley Lotenberg said. "Our sympathies and prayers go out to the family, friends and colleagues," she said.

Williams was a vibrant person who always had a smile on her face, Civil Service Employees Association President Jerry Larricciuta said in a statement.

Mulvey described Wolfe's pistol as her "service weapon" but said it was not clear if she bought it privately or whether it was issued to her as part of her job as a correction officer. A detective noted that guards do not carry weapons while on duty.

Wolfe is a correction officer of 19 years who worked the midnight shift supervising inmates at the county jail next to the hospital, said Liz Consolo, a spokeswoman for the Nassau County sheriff's office. She was not scheduled to work on Wednesday morning, the spokeswoman said.

Consolo declined to comment on Wolfe's disciplinary record or any other details of her employment.

Nassau County Police Lt. Kevin Smith said Stacie Williams' son, who rushed to the hospital after hearing of the shooting, was struck by a car while crossing the street

Braintree police never told anyone in his office that after Bishop shot her brother, she tried to commandeer a getaway car at gunpoint at a local car dealership, then refused to drop her gun until officers ordered her to do so repeatedly. Those events were described in Braintree police reports but not in a report written by a state police detective assigned to the district attorney's office.

The police chief of Braintree at the time of the shooting did not immediately return a phone call Wednesday seeking comment.

Investigators looking at an old crime scene photo from her brother's shooting discovered a newspaper article about the 1986 killings of actor Patrick Duffy's parents. The clipping, which was in Amy Bishop's bedroom, described how a teenager shot the "Dallas" star's parents with a 12-gauge shotgun and stole a getaway car from an auto dealership.

Keating ordered an inquest, which was held in April. Nineteen witnesses, including the Bishops' parents, testified before Quincy District Court Judge Mark Coven during the closed-door inquest. A grand jury heard evidence this month. □



Nassau County Police and Hempstead Village Police stand outside of a home in Hempstead, N.Y., on June 16, 2010, where authorities claim Nassau County Corrections Officer Kim Wolfe fatally shot a 56-year-old man believed to be her uncle and also shot another man believed to be her grandfather. Wolfe is also suspected in the earlier fatal shooting of Stacie Williams, a 45-year-old nurse's aide at Nassau University Medical Center in East Meadow.

Associated Press

in front of the medical center. refused medical aid at the scene, Smith said. □




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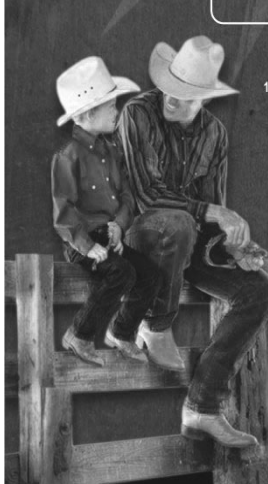
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Kyrgyz army tries to get control in riot-hit south

SERGEI GRITS

Associated Press Writer

OSH, Kyrgyzstan (AP) — Kyrgyzstan's weak military was trying to regain control of the city of Osh, a major transit point for Afghan heroin and the epicenter of ethnic violence that has driven much of the Uzbek population from the country's poor, rural south.

Troops encircled the city with checkpoints and held the central square on Wednesday, but citizens reported that some soldiers also were looting food aid, casting doubt on the government's ability to re-establish stability after nearly a week of brutal attacks.

The leader of Kyrgyzstan's Uzbek community said the death toll among Uzbeks exceeded 300. The official toll on both sides is 189, although officials have acknowledged it is likely far higher. More than 100,000 Uzbeks have fled to Uzbekistan, with tens of thousands more camped on the Kyrgyz side of the border. The interim Kyrgyz government has alleged that attackers hired by deposed President Kurmanbek Bakiyev set off the bloodshed by shooting at both Kyrgyz and Uzbeks, who have a history of ethnic tensions. The United Nations bolstered the claims by declaring that the fighting was

“targeted and well-planned,” and appeared to have begun with five simultaneous attacks in Osh by men wearing ski masks.

Provisional authorities said Bakiyev's clan could try to foment unrest in other parts of the country.

Zarylbek Rysaliyev, the police chief in the capital, Bishkek, said Wednesday that his officers have detained 111 people from the southern regions who allegedly sought to stir up ethnic tensions and offered money to those who would rally in Bakiyev's support.

Rysaliyev also said police have stepped up patrols around the Bishkek in northern Kyrgyzstan and set up roadblocks on the outskirts.

U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton spoke by telephone with Kyrgyzstan's interim President Roza Otunbayeva on Wednesday to discuss the aid the impoverished Central Asian nation will need. A senior American diplomat is heading to Bishkek for further consultations on Friday.

The U.S. has allocated \$10.3 million for humanitarian aid, the embassy in Bishkek said. U.S. State Department spokesman P.J. Crowley said more than \$6.5 million of that is for immediate humanitarian assistance.

On Wednesday, cargo planes began landing in Uzbekistan with the more than 240 tons of emergency supplies that the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees plans to provide to Uzbeks who fled the rioting, including tents, blankets and sleeping mats.

Bakiyev was ousted in April in a bloody uprising fueled by



Kyrgyz relief workers unload a plane with humanitarian aid in the southern Kyrgyz city of Jalal-Abad, Kyrgyzstan, Wednesday, June 16, 2010. The Kyrgyz military and police struggle to establish order in the country's south ravaged by days of ethnic violence.

Associated Press

anger over alleged corruption. Mars Sariyev, an independent political analyst in Bishkek, said members of his family continued to control the drug trade in the Osh Knot, an area where Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan meet that is one of the most heavily used routes for Afghan heroin heading to Russia.

The drugs are transported by car and truck along a 400-mile-long highway that runs across the Pamir Mountains from Tajikistan's porous border with Afghanistan to Osh, as well as along other smaller roads in southern Kyrgyzstan where borders are poorly controlled, according to the United Nations.

Much of the heroin is repackaged in Osh before being transported west to Uzbekistan and north to Kazakhstan and Russia by plane, train and land, the U.N. says. Kyrgyz officials have reported major seizures of heroin and opium in Osh in recent years.

U.N. and Kyrgyz officials also have noted an increased use of “mules,” individuals who carry

the drugs in their stomachs or rectums, by consuming or inserting condoms filled with heroin.

Members of the Bakiyev clan lost their hold on the drug trade a week ago with the killing of the leader of an Uzbek criminal group who worked closely with them, Sariyev said. The reputed Uzbek criminal boss, Aibek Mirsidikov, was in a turf war against the leader of the Uzbek community in the Jalal-Abad region, the 24.kg news agency reported, citing an acting deputy prime minister, Azimbek Beknazarov.

The Bakiyevs may have helped instigate the ethnic violence in an attempt both to weaken the interim government and create a power vacuum that would help them regain control over the drug flow, Sariyev charged. He and other analysts also have said they believe that Bakiyev's clan wanted to derail a constitutional referendum that the provisional government needs to gain legitimacy and pave the way for the parliamentary elections in the fall. □



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Defying sanctions, Iran plans more atomic reactors

ALI AKBAR DAREINI

Associated Press Writer

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Defying week-old U.N. sanctions over its nuclear program, Iran promised to expand its atomic research Wednesday as its president vowed to punish the West and force it to “sit at the negotiating table like a polite child” before agreeing to further talks.

Tehran, which insists its nuclear work is peaceful, said it will build four new reactors for atomic medical research. The United States and some of its allies believe Iran is trying to develop nuclear weapons, and the Islamic Republic’s plans to expand research could encourage calls in the West for more economic pressure against the country.

President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said Iran will not make “one iota of concessions.” He said he will soon announce new conditions for talks with the West, but first he wants to punish world powers for imposing sanctions.

“You showed bad temper, reneged on your promise and again resorted to devilish manners,” he said of those powers. “We set conditions (for talks) so that, God willing, you’ll be punished a bit and sit at the negotiating table like a polite child,” he told a crowd during a visit to the central Iranian town of Shahr-e-Kord. His speech was broadcast live on state TV.

The Obama administration took its first step in implementing new sanctions Wednesday, leveling penalties against additional individuals and institutions it says are helping Iran develop its nuclear and missile programs and evade international sanctions.

The list includes a bank; 22 petroleum, energy and insurance companies; two individuals and four organizations that are part of Iran’s Revolutionary Guard Corps; and five front companies and more than 90 ships that Iran’s national maritime carrier has been

using to try to evade sanctions. Some are based in Iran, while others are based in countries including Britain, Singapore, the United Arab Emirates and Germany.

“In the coming weeks we will continue to increase the financial pressure on Iran,” Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner said. “We will continue to target Iran’s support for terrorist organizations.”

Geithner said at a White House news conference that the administration expects other countries to announce new penalties of their own against Iran soon.

The European Union is expected to announce additional steps Thursday. EU foreign ministers agreed earlier this week to consider tighter sanctions for Iran’s refusal to halt uranium enrichment.

U.S. lawmakers also could press for additional embargoes after last week’s U.N. Security Council sanctions — which were backed by Iranian allies Russia and China.

Iran is just one of the unpredictable foes whose nuclear ambitions are challenging the Obama administration.

North Korea, which already has nuclear weapons, warned on Wednesday that ongoing tension over the deadly sinking of a South Korean warship could trigger nuclear war. A team of international investigators concluded that the ship was torn apart March 26 by a North Korean torpedo, an allegation the secretive North strongly denies.

North’s main Rodong Sinmun newspaper called the sinking a “minor accidental incident” in a commentary carried by the official Korean Central News Agency, but said it could “trigger an all-out war and develop into a nuclear war.” It called on the Security Council to impartially handle an investigation into the sinking.

South Korea’s military dismissed North Korea’s nuclear warning as “routine rhetoric” but said it was closely watching the North Korean military.



Iran’s Ambassador to the International Atomic Energy Agency, IAEA, Ali Asghar Soltanieh briefs the media during the IAEA’s board of governors meeting at the International Center, in Vienna, on Thursday, June 10, 2010.

Associated Press

Iran has rebuffed a United Nations-drafted plan to suspend uranium enrichment and swap its stockpiles of low-enriched uranium for fuel rods. An alternative plan backed by Turkey and Brazil includes the uranium-for-rods exchange, but does not mandate a halt to Iran’s ability to make its own nuclear fuel. Ahmadinejad’s caustic words for world powers reflect Iran’s anger over the U.N.’s latest sanctions. Iran apparently didn’t expect allies Russia and China to support such sanctions at a time it had made concessions over the terms of the suggested nuclear fuel swap. Iran’s parliament speaker Ali Larijani said lawmakers back the government’s push to enrich uranium at a higher level since earlier this year as a response to “bullying countries.”

Iran currently enriches uranium up to 20 percent levels — far short of the 95 percent plus enriched uranium needed for an atomic weapon, but well above the 3.5 percent level needed to fuel a reactor to produce electricity. Iran has justified its decision to go to higher enrichment by saying it needed to create fuel for a research reactor producing medical isotopes.

Iran’s nuclear chief said

there are plans to build four new medical research reactors, including one “more powerful” than the main facility, an aging 5-megawatt U.S.-made research reactor operating in Tehran.

The reactor Iran says it is designing will be similar to the U.S.-made reactor, but it has released few other details. It and any additional reactors will need 20 percent enriched uranium, as does the U.S.-made model.

Vice President Ali Akbar Salehi was quoted by state TV’s website as saying the new research reactor is for radioactive isotopes for medical needs of patients in Iran and abroad.

“Designing the reactor will be completed by the year end and two years will be needed to construct it. ... Our plan is to build four reactors in four corners of the country so that, given the short life of nuclear medicine, all patients will get the products throughout Iran,” the website quoted him as saying. Salehi also said Iran possesses technology to produce fuel rods for such reactors and the first should be ready sometime next spring. The announcements reflect Iran’s confusing response to the U.N. sanctions.

Ahmadinejad has countered with insults and dismissive

remarks, but also claims the door is open for dialogue on the nuclear standoff. The huge obstacle, however, is that the talks must be on Iran’s terms. Ahmadinejad also attacked the U.S., saying Iran needs to save Americans from “their undemocratic and bullying government.” He charged that the U.S. government controls what newspapers print and that its people cannot hold rallies opposing government policies.

Ahmadinejad was reacting to an invitation by the European Union foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton to Iran’s top nuclear negotiator Saeed Jalili to discuss the nuclear issue. In another sign that tensions remain high, the British ambassador to Tehran was summoned to Iran’s Foreign Ministry over allegations of British ties to terrorist activities in the country, according to reports by the semiofficial Mehr news agency and state-run Press TV late Wednesday.

Mehr said the call comes in the wake of Iran’s arrests of a number of militants in the country. It identified the group as “hypocrites,” a term Iran uses to describe the armed opposition People’s Mujahedeen, and said Iran was demanding a British government investigation. □

Calderon defends drug war, many Mexicans skeptical

By ALEXANDRA OLSON, Associated Press Writer
MEXICO CITY – Gunmen slaughter 19 men at a rehab clinic. Sixteen bodies are dumped in a northern city. Twelve police officers die in an ambush. Soldiers kill 15 gunmen outside a tourist town.

All this in less than a week, yet President Felipe Calderon believes Mexico is getting a bad rap and wants to hire a public relations firm to improve its image. He might want to start with convincing his own countrymen, who are frustrated by assurances that the drug war is going well.

“No matter how much the authorities want us to believe that they are winning this fight, the reality and the perception is that, on the contrary, it’s a lost battle,” said Miguel Jimenez, 21, a student in Morelia, the capital of Calderon’s drug-plagued home state of Michoacan. “Day after day, it’s demonstrated with the increasing violence.”

Calderon passionately defended his military-led offensive against cartels this week, pledging not to withdraw the thousands of soldiers and federal police battling gangs across the country.

He acknowledged violence has surged—often claiming innocent lives—but insisted it was a war worth fighting and that things are going as planned.

“The strategy is advancing in the necessary direction that was established from the start,” Calderon wrote in a long essay posted on his office’s website this week. “Some analysts say that it was a mistake to fight crime, that we should not have ‘provoked’ them. I think this perspective is mistaken.”

Calderon said cartels are infiltrating every walk



Police officers stand in formation during a presentation of drug dealing suspects to the media in Mexico City, Tuesday, June 15, 2010.

of Mexican life, from police and politics to businesses cowered by extortion demands. He insisted there is no choice but to fight them. If there is more violence, he said, it is because drug cartels are reeling and splintered. And his government is embarking on long-term solutions, including U.S.-backed training of thousands of police and prosecutors in modern investigative techniques.

Some Mexicans agree.

The essay “was received with skepticism among commentators in the press and radio, where it has been commonly accepted that the strategy has failed,” wrote columnist Hector Aguilar in the Milenio newspaper Wednesday. But “among the critics, there is nobody proposing an alternative to Calderon’s strategy.”

But others are tired of hearing the same arguments from the president and seeing little difference on the ground.

“How long is Calderon going to believe that this war will be won or lost by sacrificing lives?” wrote Milenio columnist Ciro Gomez. “Or, as he said last night, that things will change in the medium term?”

The problem is the sacrifice is proving too much for many Mexicans who get caught in the crossfire.

In the northern border city of Nuevo Laredo on Tuesday, soldiers chased down a group of gunmen who opened fire on their patrol. The gunmen crashed their car into a house where a woman was looking after her three grandchildren. A battle erupted, leaving one soldier and four of the gunmen dead. The grandmother and the children escaped unharmed.

Bernardo Carrizales, the youngsters’ father, watched in horror from his house across the street.

“When I saw the crash, I ran to get my children but the soldiers wouldn’t let me through and I was screaming because they were shooting at the house,” Carrizales said. “Later, they let me through and I saw my mother splattered with (someone else’s) blood and my three children behind her.”

That wasn’t the worst shootout Tuesday. In the picturesque tourist town of Taxco, south of Mexico City, soldiers battled suspected cartel members holed up in a house, leaving 15 of the gunmen dead and

forcing residents to cower in their homes.

Farther west in Nayarit state, Gov. Ney Gonzalez ordered schools to close early this year because of rising violence, including shootings that killed 30 people in the Pacific coast state over the weekend. He said children should be home so parents “won’t fret and worry about what is happening on the streets while the governor imposes order.”

The bloodshed continued Wednesday: In the border city of Ciudad Juarez, four men and two women were shot to death as they left a drug rehab center. In another northern town, Apodaca, the tortured bodies of four police officers and one ex-cop were dumped in public. Threatening messaged had been impaled on their bodies with knives.

Critics see a disconnect between what’s happening on the streets and Calderon’s rhetoric. While soldiers fought in Taxco, Calderon was in Southern Baja California to inaugurate a hotel. He announced a plan to hire a public relations firm “to demonstrate what our country has to offer, which is a lot, to any visitor of the world.”

“His political nose has been compromised,” said George Grayson, a Mexico expert at the College of William & Mary in Virginia. “They would like to improve their image but it’s not within their control.”

Part of the problem is that it’s hard to keep up with each horrific tragedy.

Last week, Calderon met with the family of two young children killed two months ago in the northern border state of Tamaulipas. The military said they were caught in the crossfire between soldiers and gunmen, a claim disputed by the family and the National Human Rights Commission.

Calderon’s office issued a short statement on the meeting with the family, but it was largely ignored.

By that time, Calderon was being criticized for going to South Africa for the World Cup in the midst of a crisis over the shooting death of a 15-year-old Mexican boy by a U.S. Border Patrol agent. Reforma newspaper published a political cartoon of Calderon running up the stairs of a South Africa-bound plane wearing a sombrero and shouting, “There are priorities!”

By the time Calderon arrived in South Africa, Mexico was reeling from two new horrors: a raid on a drug rehab clinic that left 19 people dead in northern Chihuahua City, and the bodies of 16 people found dumped in northeastern Ciudad Madero. Calderon issued a statement condemning the rehab shooting.

Critics were not impressed. “Calderon lives ‘off side,’” wrote Arnaldo Kraus, using a football reference in a Jornada newspaper editorial Wednesday that criticized the trip.

“The problem is he doesn’t know it.” □



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Floods near Riviera leave at least 19 dead

LIONEL CIRONNEAU
Associated Press Writer

DRAGUIGNAN, France (AP) — At least 19 people were killed in flash floods that hit the back hills of the French Riviera on Wednesday and turned streets into rivers of surging, muddy water, officials said. There was confusion about how many people were missing in the flooding that washed over picturesque towns and left them standing in meters (yards) of brown water, a press officer at the local Var region prefecture said. But probably at least 12 people were unaccounted for, the official said on condition of anonymity in keeping with her job's regulations. Interior Minister Brice Hortefeux, visiting the region, said the death toll "unfortunately, may climb." The floods swept away cars, trees and parts of houses in a downpour that devastated the picturesque region in the hills behind a portion of the Riviera, a magnet for tourists. Coastal towns where tourists flock, Frejus and Roquebrune, also were hit. Eleven of the deaths were in

Draguignan in the Riviera back hills scattered with olive groves and small vineyards. Nearly 3,000 rescue workers poured into the region, joining 650 police, the prefecture said. Nearly a dozen helicopters worked overnight Tuesday to evacuate people trapped by floodwaters, which reached about 2 meters high in some areas. It was the second time in less than four months that France has coped with major weather-related disasters. On Feb. 28, at least 52 people were killed when a storm named Xynthia swept through French coastal communities on the Atlantic with waves smashing dikes. On Wednesday afternoon, about 1,200 people were in shelters, and tens of thousands were without electricity or phone service, the Var government said. More than 89,000 people remained without electricity Wednesday evening. The Toulon-Hyeres airport, closed for several hours, was reopened, but the train line between Toulon and Nice was shut down, the prefecture said.



The river Artuby floods Draguignan, southern France, Wednesday, June 16, 2010. Regional authorities in southeastern France say at least a dozen people have been killed and many are missing in the aftermath of flash floods that followed powerful rainstorms. Unusually heavy rains recently in the Var region have transformed streets into muddy rivers that swept up trees, cars and other objects.

The flash flooding started Tuesday evening. MeteoFrance meteorological service forecast more but lighter rain Wednesday night in the popular tourist region. "We've never seen so much rain in the month of June," said Patrick Galois of the national weather service. He said some 16 inches of rain had fallen in the hardest-hit area of Arcs,

near Draguignan. "That corresponds with average rainfall in six months." French television broadcast images of walls of muddy brown water slamming over stone walls and coursing through city streets. The flood left cars stacked on one another and ripped the siding off houses. Residents worked Wednesday to clear mud

and water from homes and businesses. French President Nicolas Sarkozy said his "first thoughts go out to the victims," and underscored his "solidarity with the inhabitants of the Var region who have had to go through this very difficult natural disaster," according to a statement. □

Associated Press

Attorney: No funeral for actor Gary Coleman



FILE - In this Feb. 26, 2008 file photo, actor Gary Coleman, best known from the television series 'Diff'rent Strokes' and his wife Shannon Price, appear on the the NBC 'Today' television program in New York. Price on Thursday, June 10, 2010 filed a petition in a Utah court to be appointed as the special administrator of the former child actor's estate. The petition filed in 4th District Court in Provo said even though Coleman and Price were divorced in August 2008, she is still his common law wife and that she should be the one to make funeral arrangements.

By ELIZABETH WHITE,
Associated Press Writer

SALT LAKE CITY – The independent attorney appointed to oversee the property and cremation of late actor Gary Coleman said Wednesday there will be no

(AP Photo/Richard Drew, File)
funeral services for the former child TV star.

A Utah judge on Monday named Robert Jeffs the special administrator of Coleman's estate after a dispute between the "Diff'rent Strokes" star's ex-wife and ex-girlfriend.

Jeffs told The Associated Press on Wednesday that Coleman's 2005 will specifies that there should be no funeral services. Coleman died May 28 after suffering a brain hemorrhage at his home in Santaquin, 55 miles south of Salt Lake City. The judge ordered that Coleman's remains be cremated no sooner than Wednesday afternoon.

"The judge hasn't entered the order granting me authority as special administrator," Jeffs said. "That's just a technicality; (I) need a formalized order." Jeffs said even if the order were entered Wednesday, it was unlikely Coleman would be cremated the same day. Jeffs has said Coleman's ashes and property will be securely stored until a final determination is made on an estate executor. It's a decision Jeffs said could take months. Coleman said in a 1999 will that he wanted to be remembered in a wake conducted by people who had no financial ties to him and "can look each other in the eyes and say they really cared personally for Gary Coleman." He also wanted none of the media that followed Coleman's legal, financial, health and marriage troubles through his adult life to be allowed to attend.

"I direct my personal representative to permit no members of the press to be present at my wake or funeral," Coleman stated.

That will named Dion Mial, one of Coleman's friends and former managers, who on Monday withdrew his petition to be named as the special administrator of Coleman's estate. Mial's attorney said the 2005 will that names ex-girlfriend Anna Gray as administrator takes precedence because it is more recent. Gray and Coleman's ex-wife, Shannon Price, both contend they are the lawful administrators of Coleman's

estate. Price is named in a 2007 handwritten note by Coleman that names her as the sole heir.

Coleman starred for eight seasons on the sitcom "Diff'rent Strokes," starting in 1978. The tiny 10-year-old's "Whachu talkin' 'bout?" became a catch phrase in the show about two African-American brothers adopted by a wealthy white man. Coleman played Arnold Jackson, the younger of the two brothers. □

NY roofer dies at new 'American Chopper' business

MONTGOMERY, N.Y. – Authorities say a roofer working at "American Chopper" co-star Paul Teutul (TUH'-tul) Jr.'s new motorcycle business fell through a hole and died.

Police in Orange County say the Middletown roofing company employee stepped backward into a hole that had been cut in the roof and fell 40 feet Tuesday morning. They say the 26-year-old man from Beacon, whose name hasn't been released, died at the scene in Montgomery, 60 miles north of New York City.

Teutul is leasing space in the building to open his own motorcycle shop. He and his father, Paul Sr., had a falling out but plan to go head-to-head this fall when the cable TV series resumes.

Neither Paul Teutul Jr. nor other cast members were at the building when the accident happened. □

Megan Fox is engaged to beau Brian Austin Green

LOS ANGELES – Megan Fox is off the market. Again.

A spokeswoman for the 24-year-old actress says Fox is engaged to her longtime boyfriend, actor Brian Austin Green.

Publicist Dominique Appel declined to elaborate.

Fox was previously engaged to Green, 36, whom she has been dating for several years.

The two appeared together in an online video protesting California school budget cuts earlier this year. Fox can next be seen in the film "Jonah Hex," opening Friday. □

Actor Chris Klein arrested for drunken driving



Cast member Chris Klein poses at the premiere of "The Good Life" during the Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah in this January 20, 2007 file photo.

REUTERS/Mario Anzuoni

LOS ANGELES (Reuters) – Actor Chris Klein, who gained fame in the sex comedy

"American Pie," was arrested early Wednesday morning on suspicion of driving under the

influence of alcohol or drugs, an official said.

A California Highway Patrol spokesman said Klein, 31, was taken into custody at around 3:15 am PT (6:15 a.m. ET) after the car he was driving was seen drifting between lanes on a Los Angeles freeway. Klein was released later on his own recognizance.

The actor, whose real name is Frederick Christopher Klein, gained the eye of Hollywood in high-school movies "Election" and "American Pie," a hit comedy of 1999 that spawned several sequels. Since then, he has worked in movies and on television. □

MJ stage clothes, Hendrix guitar up for auction

LAS VEGAS – Michael Jackson memorabilia, including furniture, stage clothes and handwritten lyrics, are up for sale as part of a celebrity auction planned in Las Vegas this month.

Julien's Auction also plans to auction guitars played onstage by Jimi Hendrix, Johnny Cash and Elvis Presley at the four-day auction at the Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino on the Las Vegas Strip.

The June 24-27 auction includes a Mercedes car owned by Anna Nicole Smith, as well as dozens of personal items from Cher, Clark Gable, Marilyn Monroe and others.

The auction will also feature items from "Star Trek" creator Gene Roddenberry's estate. □

BUSINESS

Aruba TODAY

Stocks steady after BP agrees to \$20B victim fund

By TIM PARADIS,
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK — Stocks pulled off early lows to trade nearly flat Wednesday after BP's agreement to put \$20 billion into a fund for victims of the Gulf of Mexico oil spill eased some of the uncertainty about the company's stability.

BP shares rebounded and helped steady the overall market. The Dow Jones industrial average rose about 7 points in afternoon trading. Broader indexes also rose. The modest moves came a day after the Dow rose 214 points to its highest close in nearly a month. Stocks had risen three of the past four days. BP plans to put \$20 billion into a fund for victims, senior administration officials told The Associated Press. The agreement comes as President Barack Obama met with BP executives at the White House. Traders have been questioning how BP will handle the mounting costs of the spill, which began April 20 when a rig operated by BP exploded. "One source of uncertainty has been at least partially resolved," said Brian Gendreau, a financial adviser affiliated with Financial Network in Gainesville, Fla.

The market began the day lower after home construction and applications for building permits slumped in May following the end of a homebuyer tax credit. Meanwhile, a disappointing profit forecast from FedEx Corp. raised questions about the economic recovery. The

package delivery company is seen as a barometer of the economy because shipping demand tends to increase as business conditions improve. The stock fell 3.5 percent.

The government's report on housing raised concerns that weaker demand for homes will hurt an economic rebound. Construction of homes and apartments fell 10 percent from a month earlier to an annual rate of 593,000, well below the 650,000 economists had forecast. A 17 percent drop in construction of single-family homes was the largest since January 1991. Applications for building permits fell 5.9 percent to the lowest level in a year. Analysts had forecast an increase. Demand for permits is an indicator of future homebuilding activity.

The weaker-than-expected numbers come after a homebuyer tax credit expired in April.

Kevin Smith, a housing market analyst at Chapdelaine Credit Partners in New York, said the drop in the home construction and permit numbers extends a string of choppy readings since October, and that it's too soon to tell how housing will hold up. He noted that the prior month had been the best in more than two years.

"It's going to be a bumpy ride," Smith said. He said housing won't make a strong recovery until unemployment falls and overall confidence grows. In midafternoon trading, the Dow rose 6.95, or 0.1

percent, to 10,412.10. On Tuesday, the Dow ended above its average close of the past 200 days for the first time since May 19. Finishing above that level is seen as a sign of strength.

The broader Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 3.37, or 0.3 percent, to 1,118.60, and the Nasdaq composite index rose 11.36, or 0.5 percent, to 2,317.24.

Stocks also steadied after the euro pulled off its lows. A Spanish newspaper reported that the International Monetary Fund and European Union were trying to come up with a financial rescue for Spain. That hit the euro and pushed the dollar higher. Officials in Spain denied the report. The country, like Greece and Portugal, is facing high debt loads. The euro fell to \$1.2318. U.S. markets have been tracking the moves of 16-nation euro since major stock indexes hit their 2010 peak in late April. Traders see the shifts in the euro as a reading on confidence in Europe's ability to cut spending without endangering an economic rebound there, which could spill over to other regions. Bond prices edged higher, pushing down interest rates. The yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note slipped to 3.30 percent from 3.31 percent late Tuesday. FedEx fell \$2.86, or 3.5 percent, to \$80.15 after its fiscal 2011 forecast came in below analysts' forecasts. The company said its outlook was based on the assumption of a continued "moderate recovery" in the global economy.



Trader Christopher Lotito, left, checks prices as he works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange Wednesday, June 16, 2010.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

BP fell 15 cents, or 0.5 percent, to \$31.25.

Homebuilders were mixed after the government's report. Toll Brothers Inc. was flat at \$18.93, while Beazer Homes USA Inc. rose 10 cents, or 2.2 percent, to \$4.65.

Crude oil rose 72 cents to \$77.66 per barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange. Gold climbed. Advancing stocks narrowly outpaced those that fell

on the New York Stock Exchange, where volume came to 673 million shares, compared with 625 million shares traded at the same point Tuesday.

The Russell 2000 index of smaller companies rose 2.45, or 0.4 percent, to 671.22.

Britain's FTSE 100 rose 0.4 percent, Germany's DAX index gained 0.3 percent, and France's CAC-40 rose 0.4 percent. □

Senate approves home tax credit extension

By ANDREW TAYLOR,
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — The Senate has approved a plan to give homebuyers an extra three months to finish qualifying for federal tax incentives that boosted home sales this spring.

The move by Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid would give buyers until Sept. 30 to complete their purchases and qualify for tax credits of up to \$8,000. Under the current terms, buyers had until April 30 to get a signed sales contract and until June 30 to complete the sale.

The proposal would only allow people who already have signed contracts to finish at the later date. About 180,000 homebuyers who already signed purchase agreements would otherwise miss the deadline.

The Nevada Democrat added the proposal to a bill extending jobless benefits through the end of November. □

SPORTS

Aruba TODAY

NBA Finals

Lakers, Celtics shrug weight of history in Game 7



Los Angeles Lakers guard Kobe Bryant shoots as he is defended by Boston Celtics forward Kevin Garnett during the second half of Game 6 of the NBA basketball finals Tuesday, June 15, 2010, in Los Angeles. Los Angeles Lakers forward Pau Gasol (16) of Spain and Boston Celtics forward Paul Pierce, right, and Celtics Ray Allen, left, watch. The Lakers won 89-67.

Associated Press

GREG BEACHAM,
AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Los Angeles forward Lamar Odom says the fact that the Lakers' NBA finals series against the Boston Celtics is going down to the wire is a fantasy come true. "It's historic, especially when you talk about these teams and what they stand for, the pride," Odom said Wednesday. "This is what you envision when you're a kid in your backyard. Counting down, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1..."

Another memorable chapter in the NBA's best rivalry will end with a coronation at Staples Center, where the defending champion Lakers will try to earn their 16th banner while denying Boston its unprecedented 18th title in the clubs' second finals meeting in three years.

For the fifth time in their 12 finals meetings, Boston and Los Angeles need all seven games to decide it. Each previous time it went to Game 7, the Celtics won — but when the current Lakers and Celtics take the court for the NBA finals' first Game 7 since 2005 and just its second in the past 16 years, most will try awfully hard not to think about the history and pressure heaped on their shoulders.

It's fine for kids and historians to savor this scenario, but Kobe Bryant knows it's not a good idea for players to get caught up in it.

"It's got nothing to do with me," said Bryant, the series' leading scorer with 29.5 points per game. "(When) I look back, years from now, or even when I was a kid, (if) you'd talk about being in this situation, I'd be really excited. But when I'm in the moment right now, I've got to play. I've got to focus on that. I can't focus on the hype about it."

Although Boston has the rivalry's Game 7 history on its side, the Celtics have plenty stacked against them after an embarrassing 89-67 loss in Game 6 Tuesday night. Most glaringly, Boston won't have starting center Kendrick Perkins, who sprained multiple ligaments in his right knee in the first quarter. The Celtics' starting five has never lost a playoff series, but that five must change for Game 7. Although Perkins is a role player next to Boston's Big Three and point guard Rajon Rondo, the Celtics must hope veteran Rasheed Wallace and youngster Glen Davis can make up for Perkins' inside defense and rebounding.

Continued on Page 14



In this Jan. 3, 2010, file photo, Minnesota Vikings quarterback Brett Favre (4) drops back to pass during an NFL football game against the New York Giants in Minneapolis. Favre's doctor says his recent ankle surgery went well and the quarterback has a few more weeks of rehabilitation before he'll decide if he'll return for a 20th NFL season. Orthopedic surgeon Dr. James Andrews said Wednesday, June 16, 2010, there were no problems with last month's arthroscopic procedure, which removed scar tissue and bone spurs from Favre's left ankle.

Associated Press

No problems with Favre's surgery; future uncertain

MIKE CRANSTON

AP Sports Writer

CHARLOTTE, North Carolina (AP) — Brett Favre's doctor indicated Wednesday that the quarterback's recent ankle surgery went well and that he has a few more weeks of rehabilitation before he decides if he will return for a 20th NFL season.

Orthopedic surgeon Dr. James Andrews said there were no problems with last month's arthroscopic procedure, which removed scar tissue and bone spurs from Favre's left ankle.

"It went fine," Andrews said after speaking at the Charlotte Touchdown Club luncheon. "He's rehabbing and trying to decide what he's going to do. I talked to him yesterday."

Favre turns 41 in October. He has a contract with Minnesota that will pay him \$13 million if he plays in the 2010 season. He has given few hints in the offseason, other than the surgery, which has led many in the Vikings organization to predict that he will be back.

"We've got a few more weeks of rehabbing," Andrews said. "I think he hasn't decided yet what he wants to do."

Favre is coming off one of the best seasons of his celebrated career. He threw 33 touchdowns and only seven interceptions in guiding the Vikings to a 12-4 record and NFC North title. □

Federer gets No. 1 seeding ahead of Nadal

WIMBLEDON, England (AP) — Roger Federer was seeded No. 1 for Wimbledon on Wednesday ahead of Rafael Nadal in a reverse of their world rankings.

Federer, the defending champion and six-time Wimbledon winner, received the top seeding even though Nadal recently supplanted him as No. 1 in the world rankings. Nadal moved into the top spot after winning the French Open, while Federer slipped to No. 2 after losing in the quarterfinals in Paris. Wimbledon uses its discretion to seed players based on their grass-court record.

"While the seeding positions of Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal are reversed from their current rankings, there is no practical effect since they remain the leading seeds in their respective halves of the



Switzerland's Roger Federer serves to Germany's Philipp Kohlschreiber during their quarterfinal match of the ATP International Series tennis tournament Gerry Weber Open in Halle, Germany, Friday, June 11, 2010. Federer won 7-5, 6-3.

Associated Press

draw," Wimbledon referee Andrew Jarrett said.

The draw will be held Friday, with the two-week Grand Slam tournament starting Monday. □

MLB Roundup

Yankees beat Phillies 8-3

Rough up Halladay

NEW YORK (AP) — CC Sabathia pitched the New York Yankees past the Philadelphia Phillies and Roy Halladay 8-3 on Tuesday in a World Series rematch.

Mark Teixeira, Curtis Granderson and Nick Swisher all homered off Halladay to build a comfortable cushion for Sabathia in a marquee pitching matchup that fizzled early.

Brett Gardner laced a two-run triple in the second inning and the Yankees, who began the day tied with Tampa Bay for the American League East lead, won their ninth straight home game — the club's best streak in its second-year ballpark.

Sabathia (7-3) went seven innings, allowing five hits and striking out seven.

Halladay (8-5) matched a career high by serving up three homers — the same amount he allowed in his first 13 outings with Philadelphia.

At Atlanta, David Price pitched out of trouble to become the AL's first 10-game winner as the Tampa Bay beat Atlanta.

After a rain delay of nearly 2½ hours at the start, a throwing error led to three unearned runs in a four-run first that sent Kenshin Kawakami (0-9) to another loss. He became the first starting pitcher in Braves history to begin a season with nine straight defeats.

In other interleague games: Chicago White Sox 6, Pittsburgh 4; N.Y. Mets 7, Cleveland 6; N.Y. Yankees 8, Philadelphia 3; Detroit 7, Washington 4; Boston 6, Arizona 3; L.A. Dodgers 12, Cincinnati 0; Tampa Bay 10, Atlanta 4; Texas 3, Florida 2; Oakland 9, Chicago Cubs 5; Minnesota 9, Colorado 3; Kansas City 15, Houston 7; St. Louis 4, Seattle 2; Milwaukee 7, L.A. Angels 1; San Diego 8, Toronto 2; and Baltimore 4, San Francisco 1

National League
Dodgers 12, Reds 0

At Cincinnati, Manny Ramirez

homered and drove in four runs and Rafael Furcal tied his career high with five hits to help Los Angeles manhandle Cincinnati and end a three-game losing streak. James Loney also had four hits.

Hiroki Kuroda (6-4) outlasted a rain delay of 2 hours, 24

minutes to win for the first time in four starts. □

New York Yankees starting pitcher CC Sabathia pitches during the third inning of a baseball game against the Philadelphia Phillies on Tuesday, June 15, 2010, at Yankee Stadium in New York.

Associated Press





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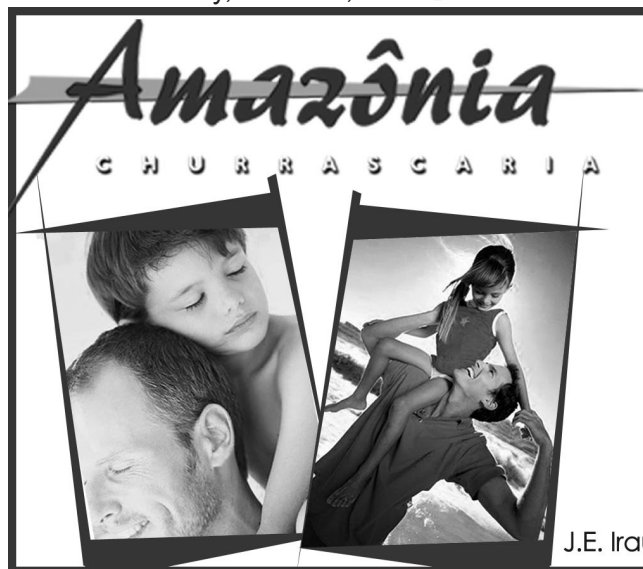
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NBA FINALS

Continued from Page 12

No visiting team has won an NBA championship in Game 7 since the Washington Bullets did it in 1978, yet the Celtics are a whole lot more worried about the Lakers than the Hollywood crowd. "I just love the pressure," said Paul Pierce, who leads the Celtics with 18 points per game. "I love the fact that I get to play against

Boston Celtics center Kendrick Perkins is assisted by a trainer during the first half of Game 6 of the NBA basketball finals against the Los Angeles Lakers on Tuesday, June 15, 2010, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

the Los Angeles Lakers in a Game 7 on the road. I love the fact that if I don't win multiple championships that I probably won't be mentioned amongst the other guys in Celtic history that have done it before. That type of stuff motivates me. That's what the challenge is for me, every time I put on this Celtic uniform."

Pierce is usually the only player in this series who embraces its history, yet it's too soon to say where these finals will fit in the rivalry's annals. Although the games had been uniformly competitive before the Lakers' blowout win in Game 6, they haven't been spectacularly played, with gritty defense trumping offense in most of the major moments.

Ray Allen's historic 3-point shooting barrage in Game 2, the Celtics' gritty victories in games 4 and 5, the Lakers' blowout win in Game 6 — all will be dwarfed by what happens in the deciding game. "I guess it's going to be another decade that people look back and see the formation of this rivalry again," Lakers coach Phil Jackson said. "The '90s was missed, and the '70s was missed, but the '60s and the '80s were big decades. It seems to skip a decade, doesn't it?"

The Celtics have more experience in seventh games

than the Lakers over the past three years, playing in two deciding games in 2008 and two more last year. Boston coach Doc Rivers thinks his club's big-game toughness mostly grew from those high stakes.

"It's the ultimate players' game," said Rivers, a New York guard when the Knicks lost Game 7 of the 1994 finals in Houston. "Unfortunately, I've coached in a lot of them over the last few years — or fortunately. All the things you've worked on all year, you have to do it, and execute it, and trust and play."

Los Angeles is in just its second Game 7 of the past three seasons, but that's because the Lakers have been better at avoiding trouble while winning 10 playoff series since Pau Gasol joined them in 2008. When faced with elimination Tuesday for the first time in these playoffs, the Lakers responded with determination at least partially born from fear, according to Gasol.

"I think about how bad and how much it would hurt if we don't come out as winners," Gasol said. "I keep that thought in my mind sometimes, just to understand that I have to do everything possible out there to help my team in any way I can. You want to leave everything you have out there, and compete as hard as you've ever competed." □

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World Cup Roundup

Spain loses to Switzerland, Uruguay beats hosts

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — Spain's potent attack couldn't score a goal in an upset loss to Switzerland on Wednesday, when Uruguay routed South Africa 3-0 to put the World Cup hosts on the verge of some unwanted history.

European champion Spain went down 1-0, ending a 12-match winning streak and recording its first ever loss to Switzerland. Chile beat Honduras in the other Group H match, its first win at the World Cup in 48 years.

Diego Forlan scored twice in a big Uruguay win which silenced the noisy vuvuzela's in the night match at Pretoria, meaning South Africa must beat France in its last Group A match or become the first host in the 80-year history of the World Cup to go out in the first round.

"It will be a disaster for us, the home country, to go out in the first round," midfielder Steven Pienaar said. "It's going to be tough now, it's going to be difficult."

Forlan first scored from a deflected 25-meter (yard) shot in the 24th minute of the night match at Pretoria and converted a penalty in the 80th to give Uruguay its first World Cup victory since a group game at the 1990 competition.

"Obviously, as a forward I like to score goals, but the important thing is to win," Forlan said. "The team is good. We also played well against France. We're very solid."

South Africa coach Carlos Alberto Parreira complained about the penalty and was unimpressed with the outcome. "The final result leaves me very sad because it was not a true reflection of the game," he said.

At Durban, Gelson Fernandes ran through the Spanish defense and fired in a loose ball after a scramble in front of the net that left goalkeeper Iker Casillas chasing from behind.

"To be fair, I'm not used to scoring goals, so I was a bit surprised," Fernandes said. "It was a bit of luck."

It was only Spain's second loss in 50 games.

"Today wasn't our day," Spain

coach Vicente del Bosque said. "We have two games ahead of us. We have to find a way to win them."

Spain dominated possession and created attack after attack, but the stifling Swiss defense managed to withstand it all.

The closest Spain went to scoring was in the 72nd minute when Xabi Alonso hit the cross bar.

Jean Beausejour tapped in the lone goal in Nelspruit in the 34th minute to give Chile a World Cup win for the first time since June 16, 1962, when it hosted the tournament and beat Yugoslavia 1-0 for third place.

"We're very happy, and we have to enjoy this triumph," Chile forward Alexis Sanchez said. "But we have to move ahead and win the game against our next rival."

Honduras found it difficult to break through the well-organized Chilean defense.

"It's a fair result," Honduras defender Sergio Mendoza said. "We didn't have a clear chance at goal. We knew we could lose this match, but qualifying out of the group is not impossible."

South Africa had trouble containing the Forlan-led attack from Uruguay, a two-time World Cup champion, and got deeper into trouble when goalkeeper Itumeleng Khune was sent off by referee Massimo Busacca for giving away the penalty when he tripped Suarez in the area in the 79th.

"The players are annoyed, very disappointed. Everyone said it was the worst referee so far. He was giving yellow cards that weren't yellow cards," Parreira said. "He doesn't deserve to be here."

The problems extended off the field for the host nation.

Before the Spain-Switzerland match in Durban, stewards joined community activists in a peaceful protest of about 800 people outside City Hall to protest the World Cup, which they say has directed public funds away from providing housing and jobs.

Protesters held placards that said "Apartheid Still Exists" and "World Cup for All! People



ABOVE: Switzerland's Gelson Fernandes, front right, celebrates with teammate Tranquillo Barnetta, left, after scoring the opening goal during the World Cup group H soccer match between Spain and Switzerland at the stadium in Durban, South Africa, Wednesday, June 16, 2010. **RIGHT:** South Africa goalkeeper Itumeleng Khune fouls Uruguay's Luis Suarez to give away a penalty during the World Cup group A soccer match between South Africa and Uruguay at the Loftus Versfeld Stadium in Pretoria, South Africa, Wednesday, June 16, 2010. Itumeleng Khune also got a red card.

Associated Press

Before Profit."

Stewards at five of the 10 World Cup venues have been replaced by police because of a wage dispute, and FIFA and the local organizers went on the defensive about security issues.

"We have nothing further to say about the security issue, please call the police," local World Cup organizing committee spokesman Rich Mkhondo said. "They are able to answer all security-related matters. All. Not me."

Also, two Dutch women were released on bail after facing charges that they broke a law covering ambush marketing by wearing minidresses promoting a brewery at a World Cup match.

The women are being



prosecuted under laws which prevents companies benefiting from an event without paying for advertising.

South African police also raided the premises of a known group of Argentine hooligans and said they will detain 17 of them.

Police had been monitoring

the "barras bravas" group and observed some of them trying to get into two World Cup matches without tickets.

"They have also behaved in a disorderly fashion on a number of occasions, roughing other fans up and generally causing trouble," police said. □

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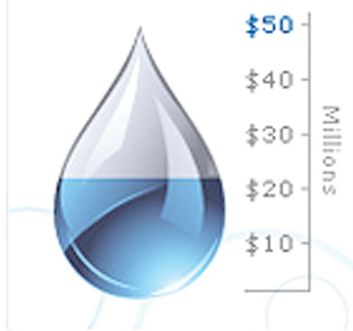
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RBTT and RBC Caribbean 80,000 Employees Observed Inaugural RBC Blue Water Day

ORANJESTAD — Last week, employees in 55 countries around the world, including 18 countries in the Caribbean served by RBTT and RBC Caribbean, observed the first ever RBC Blue Water Day on Friday, June 11, 2010.

Blue Water Day is RBC's new annual event for employees worldwide to think and talk about water—the Bank's global cause—and draw attention to better management of this critical resource. The initiative is expected to attract widespread support in the Caribbean, where many islands experienced lower than normal rainfall this year.

"RBTT is proud to be associated with the Blue Water Project as it offers us a unique opportunity to take a leadership role in protecting the world's freshwater," said Suresh Sookoo, CEO of RBTT Financial Group.

Continued on Page B7

From June 30th until July 5th at the Fisherman's Huts

Aruba gets ready for 24th Annual Aruba Hi-Winds

ORANJESTAD — A lot of sponsors, over 30 enthusiastic volunteers and a full program with live performances, windsurf, kite- and fashion shows, beach tennis games and the traditional Amstel Happy Hours from 5-7pm. "We even thought of setting up a screen to see the world championship soccer games," says Dutch trainee Maartje Dolfing. She is the event coordinator of the 24th annual Aruba Hi-Winds, organized by Frank en Wim Eelens, Evert Bongers, Ron Henriquez and Marin Bijl.

The organizing committee is expecting over a hundred



National Integrated Strategic Plan "Bo Aruba"

Prime Minister Eman receives Nation Strategy report



ORANJESTAD — On Tuesday of this week, Prime Minister Mike Eman received the report of the "National Integrated Strategic Plan". Representatives of the commission and project advisors, Sra. Maria Dijkhoff-Pita and Sra. Lorraine de Sousa, presented this document to Mr. Eman in the presence of Minister of Economic Affairs, Internal Affairs and Culture Michelle Hooyboer-Winklaar.

The intension is to integrate facts and results of opinions and exchange between different groups in our community from the past for the master plan to rebuild Aruba in the name of "Bo Aruba" which means "Your Aruba". "Bo Aruba" is an integral plan to elevate the Aruban Product in all areas, including amongst others the social situation from the habitants and the infrastructure in general. □

international participants. Those that can't join the races, are able to buy so called 'party passes' that allows them to join all beach activities, lunches and dinners.

The first windsurfing and kiteboarding races will be held on Thursday July 1st at 11 am. The windsurfers will race at the Fisherman's Huts and the kiteboarders will gather at the other side of the island, at a popular kite-bay called Boca Grandi, close to Baby Beach. In the evening all Hi-Winds participants will meet again at the Divi Hotel for a well deserved dinner.

On Sunday afternoon July 4th the public will be amazed by the tricks of the windsurf freestylers, competing for the titles 'King and Prince of the Huts'. In the afternoon lunch is by Taste of Belgium. Casa Tua takes care of dinner in the evening, followed by another fabulous Night Riders Show. The next day, Monday July 5th, the last races will be held from 10 am till 1 pm, followed by the awards ceremony starting at 7.30 pm at Paseo Herencia. □



Competition in Malibu, California

Aruba wins California's Bodyboarding Comp

Gregory Wouters Champion of the Zuma bodyboarding



ORANJESTAD - Aruban bodyboarder Gregory Wouters recently walked away with almost all the victories at the BIA (Bodyboarding International Association) Zuma Bodyboarding comp. Gregory claimed 1st place in the Men's Amateur division, 1st in AA (advance amateur division), 1st in AAA (semi Pro division), 1st in amateur DK, 2nd in Pro DK but best off all 1st in Open Pro division winning the current BIA Leader Ryley Cole. Wouters comes home with a total of 6 trophies (five 1st places and one 2nd place)!

This is one of Gregory's best achievements so far after the Arica Chilean Challenge comp in 2009. Gregory surprised everybody in the competition during the AA division when he scored a perfect 10; he launched the biggest ARS of the competition and combined it with spins till shore. He was also the only one to launch two inverts during the competition. His first invert was the biggest one that he launched during the



AAA division where he also scored perfect 10. Gregory was the best competitor in the competition as he was claiming ARS' in every single

heat that he was in. Video of the competition and more info of the event plus every competitors picture will be posted soon on rusharuba.



Under Full Sail Jolly Pirates on the Sea of Matrimony

Marriott Guests renew marriage after Ten Years



MALMOK - While the 85 ft teak schooner sailing ship was moored at Boca Catalina, a scenic cove on Aruba's Northwest Coast, Adrienne and Scott Rapacki said their "I Do's". Like all starry-eyed couples they pledged their love to each other and in keeping with the Jolly Pirates tradition, exchanged the ship's bright orange life rings and sealed the deal with a kiss. Under the bright sunshine and with a full ship of new found friends to witness, cups of the ship's signature brew, Pirate's Poison were raised to toast the couples special day. Aye! Aye!

With magic and wonder in the trade winds, adding nautical nuptials aboard a Jolly Pirates Cruise can be a sentimental and light-hearted way to add some romance to your vacation and a unique way to celebrate your wedding anniversary. "I wanted to surprise Scott and renewing our marriage aboard the Jolly Pirates was romantic and fun and we got a chance to reflect our ever growing and changing lives. Life is all about the laughter", Adrienne explains. Re-Wed Ceremonies are part of a growing trend that is gaining popularity with couples of all ages. In fact, just

ask the Jolly Pirates Captain, Harald Buser who will tell you that he performs several vow ceremonies each week. There is no charge for a Jolly Pirates vow renewal ceremony, which can be conducted during any of the Jolly Pirate cruises offered. Re - Weds can be requested onboard or in advance when making your reservation for your trip. With advance notice the Jolly Pirates can also help you to make your special day more special with arrangements for Private Ceremonies for your day to include Wedding Cake, Canapés, Champagne,



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family vacations on their favorite island. Their 2-year old granddaughter Sydney took her first baby steps at the Aruba Marriott in the lobby. The Kirschenbaums' enthusiasm to visit Aruba each year is based upon their positive experiences such as the warmth and friendliness of the people and the beauty of the island. They truly feel the Aruba Marriott is their "home away from home".

The honoring took place at the newly transformed lobby of the Aruba Marriott Resort. Together with the Kirschenbaum family present at this special occasion were Ms. Natalie Maduro of the Aruba Tourism Authority, Hotel Manager Louella Brezovar, Executive Assistant Lisette Bouwman and Front Office Manager Koen Hietbrink of the Aruba Marriott Resort. After a heartwarming speech, the Kirschenbaums were presented with a commemorative plaque by Ms Natalie Maduro of the Aruba Tourism Authority.

Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino boasts 411 guestrooms -- the most spacious on the island -- each

with large, private balconies overlooking lush landscape and the sparkling waters of the Caribbean Sea. On property, seven restaurants and cafes provide fare from light to elegant, while the largest casino in Aruba, a 6,500 square-foot spa, free-form swimming pool with cascading waterfalls and high-energy health club offer entertaining diversions. To obtain more information call the Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino at 888-PARADISE or visit www.arubamarriott.com. Connect with the Aruba Marriott's official Facebook fan page by visiting www.facebook.com/ArubaMarriott and follow on Twitter@ArubaMarriott. Marriott and Renaissance Caribbean & Mexico Resorts is comprised of ten resorts in seven of the top tropical destinations in the Caribbean and Mexico -- Aruba, Cancun, Curaçao, Grand Cayman, Puerto Vallarta, St. Kitts and St. Thomas. To experience these resorts and learn about special promotions, please visit the new www.ParadiseByMarriott.com

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PALM BEACH – On Wednesday June 16 2010 at the Aruba Marriott Resort and Stellaris Casino, Nancy and Irwin Kirschenbaum were acknowledged with the "Distinguished Guests of Aruba" title by the Aruba Tourism Authority. As a loyal Marriott guest and owner at Marriott's Aruba Vacation Club, Nancy and Irwin Kirschenbaum from Woodbury New York have been visiting Aruba over ten consecutive years. Their first visit to Aruba was in 1999 and over the years they have brought their loved ones to enjoy

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Princess Cruises Launches New 7-night Voyages to the Southern Caribbean



by Charlie Mills

It now seems that Princess Cruises is joining Holland America in offering 7-night voyages to the Southern Caribbean from Florida. This is great news since the cruise industry continues to show great strength despite poor

travel conditions.

The cruise line went on to say that the 3,080-passenger Crown Princess will begin weekly seven-night sailing to this region from Ft. Lauderdale starting November 2011. This offers people from all over a great way to beat the cold

weather.

Up until now, the cruise line has only offered nine- and ten-night voyages to the Southern Caribbean from its Florida hub. Like other cruise lines, Princess Cruises traditionally has operated its shorter, seven-night voyages to the Southern Caribbean out of San Juan, Puerto Rico. This is because San Juan is closer to the region. This new itinerary is suppose to appeal to cruises looking for new options for seven-night voyages out of Florida.

Due to the very long distance that the Crown Princess will have to travel to reach the

Southern Caribbean, the itinerary will include visits to just two islands in the region. As of right now, these two islands are Aruba and Curacao. The ship will also spend a day at Princess' private island in the Bahamas, Princess Cays. This itinerary is similar to the ones offered by Holland American on its 1,916-passenger Westerdam. This ship also visits Aruba and Curacao on seven-night sailings from Fort Lauderdale. Carnival Cruise Lines does offer eight- and nine-night sailings to the Southern Caribbean from Fort Lauderdale as well.



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Don't confuse self-love with arrogance. Arrogance is a weak, insecure, powerless energy, while self-love is relaxed and confident. Love yourself, but don't be an arrogant ass. Love is quiet and certain, the rest is insecurity based on separation.

The Realm of Separation has taught us that it is shameful to love ourselves. If something is forbidden in the illusion, it is usually because of the inherent power held within, and to Love yourself without arrogance is an extremely self-empowering act. Love yourself as a piece of the Source that connects us all.

Quietly Love yourself and share your grand unique expression with the world. When you value yourself, the world will value you. Out of billions, you are solely unique. No one offers your personal expression but you. Don't be ashamed to love yourself because by loving yourself, you love a piece of whatever you know to be God.

Love is quiet and confident, subtly self-assured. No one needs to know that you love yourself,

but they will see a positive shift in your energy, and they will be affected by your inner transformation.

Until Tomorrow...

Go to www.HumanHints.com to sign up to receive this column in your email each day.

~Quentin Danziger

Quentin has over 20 years experience balancing what we refer to as the Real World, with science and spirit. He has held positions of responsibility and authority, received a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Physics from Colorado School of Mines, and has also studied many avenues of alternative thought. HumanHints is the culmination of his knowledge, experience and practice. These free daily emails detail concrete, real-world techniques to consciously create any future you choose, while in the throes of daily life created by outdated modes of thought.

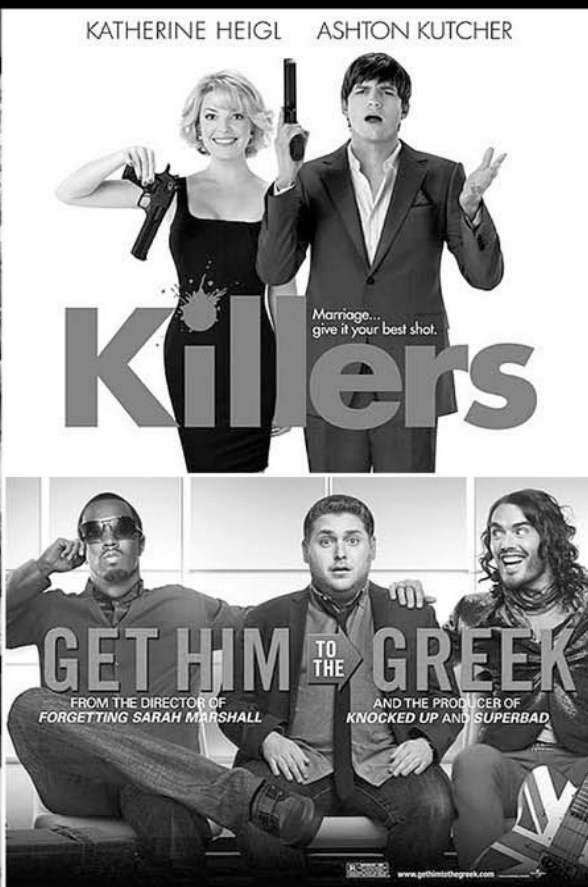
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NEW	daily:	4.15	6.45	
	matinee:	1.45	late show:	
PG-13	PRINS OF PERSIA			
	daily:	5.30	8.00	
	matinee:	12.30	3.00	late show: 11.00
PG	SHREK FOREVER AFTER 3D			
	daily:	4.00	6.15	8.45
	matinee:	1.30	late show:	11.00
PG-13	DEATH AT A FUNERAL			
	daily:		9.15	
	matinee:		late show:	11.30
R	SEX AND THE CITY			
	daily:		9.00	
	matinee:		late show:	11.45
PG-13	THE A-TEAM			
	daily:	5.45	8.30	
	matinee:	12.00	2.45	late show: 11.30
PG	MARMADUKE			
	daily:	4.30	6.30	
	matinee:	12.00	2.15	late show:
PG	THE KARATE KID			
	daily:	6.00	8.45	
	matinee:	12.15	3.15	late show: 11.30
AT PASEO HERENCIA				
PG	TOY STORY 3 3D			
NEW	daily:	4.15	6.45	
	matinee:	1.45	late show:	
R	GET HIM TO THE GREEK			
NEW	daily:	5.30	8.00	
	matinee:	12.15	3.00	late show: 11.00
PG-13	KILLERS			
NEW	daily:	4.30	6.45	9.00
	matinee:	12.00	2.15	late show: 11.45
PG-13	THE A-TEAM			
	daily:	6.15	8.45	
	matinee:	12.30	3.15	late show: 11.30
PG	SHREK FOREVER AFTER			
	daily:	4.00	6.30	8.45
	matinee:	1.15	late show:	11.15
PG	THE KARATE KID			
	daily:	5.45	8.30	
	matinee:	12.00	3.00	late show: 11.30
R	SEX AND THE CITY			
	daily:		9.15	
	matinee:		late show:	11.45

80,000 Employees Observed Inaugural RBC Blue Water Day

Continued from Page B1

The RBC Blue Water Project is a wide-ranging, multi-year program to help foster a culture of water stewardship, so that people, communities and businesses have clean fresh water today and tomorrow.

"It reflects RBC's strong legacy as a caring and responsible corporate citizen, its longstanding commitment to environmental sustainability, and is the most ambitious philanthropic program in the company's history," said RBC President and CEO, Gord Nixon.

In the lead up to Blue Water Day, several activities were planned to highlight the significant commitment RBC has made to this project

-- \$21 million in funding to date—and to celebrate the

work of RBC's network of over 200 Blue Water Project grant recipients.

RBC's 80,000 employees from around the world wore blue wristbands and clothing on June 11 to show their support and build awareness around this important initiative. Employees in various parts of RBC also organized special events for staff members, clients and the public including an essay contest to encourage employees to become water ambassadors, a water workshop, and educational water activities and water clean up projects.

Television and online advertising also celebrated the work of RBC's Blue Water Project grant recipients.

In the Caribbean, RBC Blue Water Projects include contribution to the Dow Live Earth Run for Water



Bankers in blue: Edna Farro, President & Country Head of RBTB Bank Aruba (front row, in the middle) and other staff members of the Aruba branch joined their colleagues at RBC and RBTB branches in 55 countries who wore blue bracelets and clothing in observation of the inaugural RBC Blue Water Day on June 11.

and "Water for Life" - a programme to design and build a rainwater harvesting system in rural communities. The next

phase is raising awareness among the Caribbean's high school population. This is being done through the regional RBTB Young

Leaders Programme 2010-2011 which is themed "Water: Beyond the Surface; Sustaining Life; Securing our Future." □

Spectacular seafood special at Driftwood

From the pier to your plate at authentic Aruban seafood restaurant

ORANJESTAD - It's happening downtown. Established Driftwood Restaurant launches a series of spectacular and delicious seafood specials, available now.

Driftwood is specialized in fresh seafood from the Caribbean Sea and has become the favorite spot for Aruban-style seafood dishes. Fresh fish is caught daily by the owner himself and



perfectly and authentically prepared by their talented local Chef.

Located in the heart of characteristic downtown, Driftwood offers you a unique dining experience. Enjoy the freshest fish, biggest shrimp, or the most succulent Caribbean lobster amid the rustic ambience of the natural driftwood dining room.

The authentic local seafood restaurant.

The menu includes a large variety of typically Aruban delicacies including a three star fish soup and a mouth-watering filet of fish served with a mild Aruban Creole sauce... a seafood lover's dream come true.

Opening hours: every day, but Tuesdays from 5pm till 10:30pm.



Special of the month

Every month the Chef treats his customers with a delicious dinner special. In June one may choose from different soups, fish cakes or salads to start with. The main

course is a choice of catch of the day (prepared your way), Jumbo Shrimp or for the meatlovers Filet Mignon or Chicken Breast. The evening is topped with a grand dessert and coffee or tea.

Driftwood Restaurant

Klipstraat 12, Oranjestad

Reservations: **583 2515**

Email: info@driftwoodaruba.com

Website: www.driftwoodaruba.com



Special of the Month:
3-course dinner →
Appetizer - Entree - Dessert

\$24
per person

With an incentive trip to PriceSmart

MVCI's 'Kaboom' ignites declaration of love along with shopping spree



ORANJESTAD - An explosion of activity was recently experienced at PriceSmart, with associates of Marriott Vacation Club International's (MVCI) Sales & Marketing team enjoying a "Kaboom" shopping spree event, specially designed as both an awards ceremony as well as a reward for career accomplishments. A surprise moment of the evening came as one inspired associate went down on one knee to propose to a fellow colleague. The couple, John Jeffree "JJ" and Premal Chohan, had met while working for the Marriott's vacation ownership properties of the Aruba Surf Club and the Aruba Ocean Club, with both their relationship and as well as their careers flourishing. An ebullient tone was struck not just by the engagement, but by the overall high-spirited occasion in which quality job performance was recognized and immediately rewarded with shopping coupons. MVCI Aruba associates first fueled up on a delectable meal of rotisserie chicken, ribs and salads, provided by PriceSmart, while they

cheered on colleagues as awards were announced, before finally, making a mad dash on to the PriceSmart sales floor. Shopping carts soon piled up with big ticket items including LCD TVs, computers, appliances and even a trampoline, as well as food items. Family and friends of MVCI associates had been invited to the event, and helped in the joyful collection of merchandise well earned by the outstanding accomplishments of MVCI's Sales & Marketing staff. "It was the highest amount spent in one hour that we ever experienced during a special event," comments PriceSmart Marketing Manager Charline Winterdaal. "But what was most gratifying was to experience the excitement level among both MVCI shoppers and PriceSmart employees, who gave it their all to make it a truly special event. The success of the evening will certainly ensure the continuation of such events in the future." The shopping spree was



enjoyed by MVCI associates recognized with various awards, including First Quarter 'GOVETS' winners, who excelled in individual goals of Guest service, Owner service, Volume, Expense goals, Teamwork and Self-Development. Respectively, winners included Mariska Winterdaal, Francis Groeneveldt, Nayda Lopez, Shirley Ferguson, Nazih Hamawi and Ivick Rasmijn. The Associate of the Quarter award was presented to Matiska Winterdaal, with Manager of the Quarter honors going to Brigitte Wauben. Also recognized were longtime MVCI Aruba associates. For five years of dedicated service, Gisela Sa, Francis Groeneveldt and Maroushka Sanchez were honored. With ten years with MVCI were Jenny Boekhoudt

and Vicky Monte. Theolinda Richardson and Zuraila Wever were also recognized for the upcoming anniversaries on which they will be celebrating their successful 15- year-long careers with MVCI. All honorees are popular among their fellow associates, having served both as role models as well as friends to their co-workers during their many years of service.

The satisfaction of Aruba's guests, who have found an additional facet to love about the island in becoming vacation owners, often begins with an introduction provided by one of MVCI's talented, on-island Sales & Marketing associates. Aruba's team remains one of the highest rated departments within the entire Marriott Vacation Club International (MVCI) network. □



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PALM BEACH – The health and calorie conscious among us need fear steakhouses no more. Whether it's a low-carb, low-fat, or even vegetarian diet you follow, Texas de Brazil Churrascaria fits into just about every dieter's menu plan.

Low carb eaters will have all their expectations surpassed with a tempting carnivorous selection of umpteen cuts of sizzling beef, pork, lamb, sausage, and poultry. The meats are prepared in the healthiest style of cooking—slow roasting—where much of the fat drips off in the roasting process, so those looking for a lower fat option to sautéing, pan frying, or deep frying will also be able to indulge.

The Brazilian-style steakhouse also offers a garden full of healthy eats on a lavish 40-item seasonal salad bar, giving dieters plenty to choose from to accompany the

slow-roasted meats. A selection of fresh lettuces and vegetables may be standard for most salad bars, but Texas de Brazil's version goes a gourmet twist further, treating the palate to additional items like marinated portabella mushrooms, sweet roasted bell peppers, hearts of palm, sundried tomatoes, imported cheeses—including fresh buffalo mozzarella—sushi, home-made soups, and much more.

The salad bar is included in the continuous service meal with unlimited choices from the grilled meats, but for vegetarians or the non-meat eaters, a special price is offered for just the salad bar. Of course, for those looking to splurge while on vacation, Texas de Brazil will gladly serve their garlic mashed potatoes, traditional fried plantains, and their world-famous parmesan cheese bread as part of the meal.

**Restaurant
open daily**

Monday - Sat 6 pm - 11
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For more information or to
make reservations, please
call 586-4686. ☐



Take a culinary trip around the
Mediterranean Sea without leaving our terrace

Palm Beach -- When we say Mediterranean cuisine, we mean the food from the adjacent nation-states sharing the shores of the Mediterranean, embracing many cultures and influenced by varied customs.

At Casa Tua Mediterranee our menu offers a trip around that sunshiny, lively part of the world, without ever having to buy an airline ticket, starting at the Atlantic and traveling traverse Europe to Turkey, on to the Middle East and North Africa.

Our chefs picked the best, most delicious dishes from France, Italy, Greece, and Tunisia, and paired them with most famous Middle-Eastern appetizers and salads to present a formidable culinary trip around the Mediterranean Sea, enjoyed in



our contemporary indoor dining room which includes a cozy lounge area or on the dining terrace overlooking the action at the new bustling Palm Beach Plaza. Spanokopitakia, brick oven baked filo pastries filled with Greek cheese and spinach, famous Tzaziki, a yogurt and cucumber dip, and popular Babaganoush and Hummus, with authentic pita bread, are some of our appetizers. For main courses our traditional

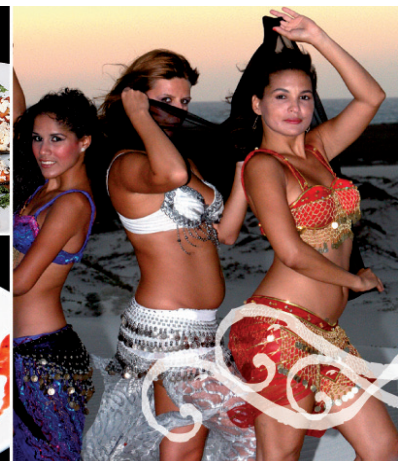
Moussaka is justly called, the best you will ever have, and our genuine Tunisian Couscous, loaded with merguez, chicken and lamb, is rivaled only by our Tenderloin, Lamb and Chicken kebabs. We pay homage to provincial cooking with our Grilled Whole Red Snapper, flavored with herbs de Provence, and our Mussels, taste the way they're served in the port of Marseille. Our thin crust Italian Pizza, needs no introduction, as it has earned a huge following in both our other restaurants, Casa Tua Pizzeria and Casa Tua Barcelona.

To top off the authentic Mediterranean feast, our Oriental belly dancers entertain every night and you may complement the exotic evening with a flavored hookah pipe and endless new style cocktails



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Prosecutor could travel to Peru in August

Aruba police seek discussion with Van der Sloot



ORANJESTAD, Aruba — Prosecutors in Aruba said Wednesday they want to take Joran van der Sloot up on his offer to discuss the unsolved disappearance of American teenager Natalee Holloway. Judicial authorities in Peru are willing to arrange a conversation between island police and Van der Sloot, Attorney General Robert Pietersz said.

The Dutchman is awaiting trial in Peru in the slaying of a 21-year-old woman in his Lima hotel room.

Van der Sloot told his jailers he is ready to clarify the Holloway case, but only to Aruba authorities. He is the only remaining suspect in the 2005 disappearance.

An Aruba policeman and a prosecutor could travel to Peru as early as August, said Peter Blanken, the island's chief prosecutor.

Van der Sloot has said he fears for his life in the Peruvian prison. But regardless of what information the suspect might provide in the Holloway case, it is unlikely he would be brought to this Caribbean island before completing any sentence if convicted in the South American country, Blanken said.

"I think it's out of question because the case in Peru is a very severe case and the

Peruvian authorities have said they do not want to do that," Blanken said.

Dave Holloway, the missing teen's father, met with Aruba police Tuesday, Blanken said. He said authorities did not have any new information in the case to discuss.

Natalee Holloway, an 18-year-old from Mountain Brook, Alabama, was last seen leaving a bar with Van der Sloot on May 30, 2005, the final night of a high school graduation trip to Aruba.

A mystery woman who says she was a first love and longtime confidant of Joran van der Sloot is speaking out for the first time... "20/20" Anchor Chris Cuomo has an exclusive interview with the woman Joran van der Sloot reached out to just days before he allegedly murdered a Peruvian woman.

What did he want and why is she coming forward now? "20/20" also sees inside the never-before-seen diary, which includes love letters, poems, souvenirs and photographs, that she kept during their seven month romance. The exclusive report airs on "20/20" on FRIDAY, JUNE 18 (10:00 – 11:00 p.m. ET) on the ABC Television Network. □

For the Dad you love best

Tango's Chateaubriand will delight your father on his day



ARAWAK GARDENS - You won't believe the Chateaubriand special of Tango Restaurant in the Arawak Garden: a terrific dinner for two including a pitcher of Sangria and a cocktail for Dad on His Day.

No one can beat this deal, we promise you. And if your father is a real meat lover, he will love you even more after June 20. A Chateaubriand is a thick cut from the tenderloin; it will be sliced tableside after it is brought to you sizzling

hot from the Argentine Parilla Grill. Tango's award-winning chef sees to it that everything is to everyone's liking. The Chateaubriand has a history: the Larousse Gastronomique, the leading French gastronomic

encyclopedia writes about it: the Chateaubriand was created by personal chef Montmireil for Vicomte François-René de Chateaubriand. This man served Napoleon as an ambassador; the Vicomte lived from 1768 till 1848. Dinner is served with fresh vegetables, corn-on-the-cob and a choice of French fries, rice, baked potatoes or pan-fried potatoes. A pitcher of Sangria complements your fantastic Tango experience.



Bon provecha, and a special Bon Appetit for your Father! □





Obesity Can Take Toll on Sex Life

By Steven Reinberg

Obesity is tied to reduced sexual activity and poorer sexual health, according to new research from France.

The rate of unplanned pregnancy among obese women is four times that of normal-weight women, despite the former having fewer partners, the report found.

For men, being obese greatly raised the odds for impotence and their risk of contracting a sexually transmitted disease. "Being obese has a strong influence on people's sexual life," said lead researcher Nathalie Bajos, an associate

professor at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and research director at the National Institute of Health and Medical Research, in Paris.

She believes obesity affects the sex lives of women particularly hard.

"Because of social pressure or social stigmatization, obese women are less likely to engage in sexual intercourse and more likely to find sexual partners via the Internet," Bajos said. "Because of their obesity, they are not comfortable meeting men through friends, through work, through parties," she

reasoned.

Obese women are also more likely than thinner women to be in a relationship with a partner who is also obese or overweight, Bajos said.

A lot of these problems are driven by the stigmatization of obese women, she said, and "these women are more likely to have low self-esteem."

The report is published in the June 16 online edition of the BMJ.

For the study, Bajos and colleagues collected data on the sexual behavior of more than 12,000 French men and women. Among this group, 3,651 women and 2,725 men were normal weight, 1,010 women and 1,488 men were overweight, and 411 women and 350 men were obese.

Putting on excess pounds did take a toll on sex lives, the study found.

Compared with normal-weight women and men, obese women were 30 percent less likely to have had a sex partner in the past year, while obese men were 70 percent less likely to have had more than one sex partner over the same time, the researchers found.

Obese men were also 2.5 times more likely to experience erectile dysfunction than normal-weight men, and obese men under 30 were more likely to have had a

sexually transmitted disease, the researchers found.

Obese women under 30 often didn't seek contraceptive advice or use oral contraceptives, and were more likely to have an unintended pregnancy, the researchers found, and they were also less likely to visit a gynecologist, Bajos said. Due to being overweight, "they do not [always] feel comfortable seeing a gynecologist for contraception issues," she said.

In addition, gynecologists and general practitioners are less likely to prescribe contraception to obese women, Bajos noted. "It could be that they believe these women are less likely to have a sexual life," she said.

The study also found that obese women were five times more likely to meet sex partners on the Internet and more likely to watch pornography. Yet they were less likely to view sex as important in their lives, Bajos said.

Dr. Sandy Goldbeck-Wood is associate specialist in psychosexual medicine at Camden and Islington Mental Health Trust in the U.K., and author of an accompanying editorial. She said that "the differing sexual experiences of obese and non-obese people need cautious interpretation."

"We need to understand more about how obese people feel about their sex lives, and what drives the observed behaviors and attitudes. In particular, we need to know why obese women use less contraception and have more unwanted pregnancies despite having fewer sexual partners," Goldbeck-Wood said. "The answers are likely to be complex, with biological, psychological and social aspects that will require a qualitative research approach," she added.

Doctors must also develop the courage, skill and sensitivity to speak to patients directly about their sex lives and their weight, Goldbeck-Wood noted. "Doctors in primary care and sexual and reproductive health need to pay particular attention to the complex contraceptive needs of obese women," she suggested.

Dr. Robert Schwartz, professor and chairman of family medicine at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine agreed that, right now, "a lot of physicians don't pay much attention to obese patients' sexuality."

His advice to doctors: "Don't make the assumption that your obese patients are not as sexually active as the rest of the population, and they need to be counseled appropriately." □

More Americans exercise, but they are still obese

WASHINGTON (Reuters) – More Americans are exercising but rates of obesity and smoking have not changed, according to the latest government data.

A survey by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released on Wednesday finds obesity rates were frozen last year at around 28 percent of adults compared to 2008.

But 34.7 percent claimed in 2009 they engage in regular leisure physical activity, up from 31.9 percent in 2008. And 39.8 percent said they had been tested for the AIDS virus, slightly more than 38.7 percent in 2008.

Health experts and the U.S. government both recommend getting daily exercise -- about an hour a day of moderate exercise for most adults -- to keep weight off and prevent heart disease, diabetes and cancer.

The CDC also recommends that every adult get an HIV test. The CDC estimates that about 1 million Americans are infected with the human immunodeficiency virus that causes AIDS, but more than 20 percent have not been tested and do not know it. Some other facts from the CDC's National Center for Health Statistics:

* The prevalence of obesity among adults aged 20 and over has increased from 19.4 percent in 1997 to 28 percent in 2009.

* In 2009, 9 percent of adults 18 and over had diabetes, up from 8.2 percent in 2008 and 5 percent in 1997.

* 20.6 percent of adults smoked, about the same as in 2008.

* Nearly 23 percent of adults had at least one day of binge drinking in 2009, defined as having five or more drinks in a day.

* Most Americans believe they are healthy. More than 66 percent said they had excellent or very good health, down from 68.5 percent in 2008. 2.4 percent said they had poor health.

* Just over 4 percent of all Americans said they had an asthma attack in the past year. □

Health Tip:

Why People Get Ear Infections

An [ear infection](#) is a common ailment, especially among young children whose eustachian tubes clog easily.

The U.S. National Library of Medicine says possible causes of ear infection include:

* A sinus infection or the common cold.

* Allergies.

* Exposure to tobacco smoke or other irritating substances.

* Infected or overgrown adenoids.

* A side effect of teething among [young children](#). □



This NASA handout image obtained in January 2010 shows an artist's concept of an object found by Hubble only 3,200 feet across and 4.2 billion miles away. In a technical feat, astronomers measured the size of a small rock six billion kilometers (3.75 billion miles) away to an accuracy of a few kilometers and found its surface to be a mysterious ice-like white.

(AFP/NASA)

Distant rock caught by Earth-bound telescopes

PARIS (AFP) – In a technical feat, astronomers measured the size of a small rock six billion kilometers (3.75 billion miles) away to an accuracy of a few kilometers and found its surface to be a mysterious ice-like white.

Years of planning combined with a network of telescopes to grab the first pictures of the Kuiper Belt Object (KBO) through a method of celestial alignment, they reported on Wednesday in the British science journal Nature.

KBOs are a population of rocks that orbit the Sun at a distance of between 4.95-8.25 billion kms (3.09-5.15 billion miles), and are believed to be rubble left over from the building of the planets.

Their lonely journey takes them out beyond Neptune, the farthest acknowledged planet, and into a vast region that touches on the deeply chilled fringes of the Solar System.

The rock, KBO 55636, had

been tracked by an astronomer in the United States, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) professor James Elliot, for five years.

Elliot suddenly realised that on October 9, 2009 that his coveted 55636 would pass between a bright star and Earth, an event known as occultation.

When a rock or planet passes between a star and the observer, it causes changes in starlight that can reveal its size and temperature and indicate whether it has an atmosphere, and if so, what kind.

But the October 9 occultation faced a problem.

55636 is very small, and this massively complicated the task of predicting exactly where its tiny shadow would fall on Earth.

Hedging their bets, Elliot and colleagues assembled a network of 21 telescopes at 18 stations along a 5,900-kilometre (3,687-mile)

track where, with luck, the occultation could be snared.

On the great day, nine of the stations were found to be outside the occultation and missed it, and seven could not see it because of bad weather. But two stations in Hawaii, manned by professional and amateur skygazers, struck gold.

Using telescopes with mirrors of only 2.4 metres (96 inches) and 0.34 metres (13.6 inches) -- modest affairs compared with today's behemoths -- they got excellent images of 55636 as it whizzed past at 91,000 kms (57,800 miles) per hour.

To get this achievement in perspective, it was equal to getting a photo of a one-euro coin from a distance of 500 kilometers (312 miles), with the target visible for just 10 seconds. The rock turns out to be smaller than thought, with a radius of 143 kilometres (89.37 miles), give or take five kilometres, and has a paralyzingly low surface temperature of 49 Kelvin, or -224 degrees Celsius (-371 degrees Fahrenheit).

The biggest surprise, though, is that 55636 was also highly reflective. Measurements made it one of the brightest objects in the Solar System, which suggests it is covered with ice.

If so, that is a puzzle.

Space is a harsh environment, which means that objects as ancient as 55636, which split from a large bright rock about a billion years ago, become weathered. They end up duller-looking and darker as they become covered with dust and exposed to solar radiation as the aeons pass.

The known exceptions to this are Pluto, now downgraded to a dwarf planet, and the Saturnian moon of Enceladus, whose bright surfaces are replenished with fresh ice that comes from condensing gases or from volcanoes that spew water instead of lava.

But 55636 is far too small for such mechanisms to work.

So the search is on to figure out why it is so enigmatically white -- and whether theories about space weathering and the outer Solar System need an overhaul. □

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Aruba Beach Club

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1 BR 2Bath	Week 25	Room 263 Ocean Front	\$12K

Occidental Resort

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2Br	Week 18/50	Ocean Front	\$20K
Jr.siute	Week 18/50	Ocean View	\$8K
1BR Deluxe	Week 18/50	Ocean View	\$9K

Costa Linda Beach Resort

2 BR	Week 22/23	Room 2015 Pool/ocean view	\$30K both.
2BR	Week 25	Room 2021 Pool/Ocean View	\$10K.

Riu Palace

1Br	Week 26	Room 348 Ocean view	\$10K
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Renaissance Suites

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1BR	Week 25	Room 2136 Harbour View	\$5K

La Cabana Beach and Raquet Club

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The Second Time Around

Susan Estrich

"I'm definitely going to sail around the world again, or at least give it another try," teen sailor Abby Sunderland told the Australian press after her rescue last week.

Before she does, she and her family might consider doing two things: paying for the costly rescue and waiting for Abby to turn 18.

Abby and her father keep telling us that age has nothing to do with this. Of course it does. She was trying to break a record — based on age. Otherwise, she might have waited until later, when she likely would have faced better weather.

But she's wanted to go since she was 13, her father says. Yes, and so what? So she waited three years. She should have waited at least two more.

Her parents say there is no way they could ever afford to pay for the costly rescue. Then why send your daughter on a mission like this, if you can't afford to rescue her in the very likely event that she needs it? Exactly who was taking responsibility here? Not her, and not them. Values? Exactly what are those values? Her parents say they didn't just train her to sail; they also prayed. In fact, religious belief, deeply held, has provided the primary occasion for courts to try to figure out the limits of parental responsibility and control. And the Sunderlands, it appears, exceeded those limits.

We have all heard, painfully, of cases where children are diagnosed with serious but treatable diseases, and their parents, for religious reasons, want to forgo treatment. No blood transfusions, no chemotherapy — it conflicts with the parents' religious beliefs. Should parents have the right to sacrifice their children's lives in order to abide by their deeply held religious beliefs?

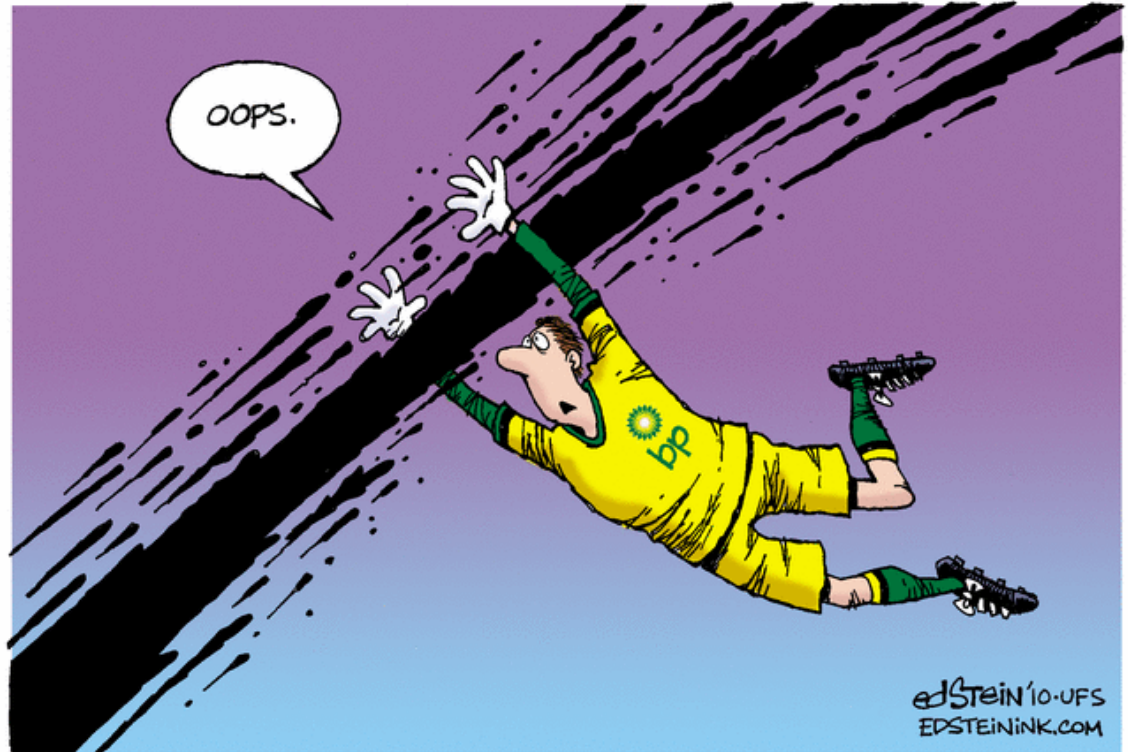
The short answer is no.

The line between parental and state responsibility is where the life of the child is endangered. You can refuse a life-saving blood transfusion for yourself, but you cannot refuse it for your child. You can refuse chemotherapy for yourself, but unless a court determines that your child is indeed a "mature" minor, your refusal will not preclude the hospital from going to court and securing treatment for the child.

I'm not much of a risk-taker. Careening around a racetrack at three-digit speeds is just not my idea of a good time. I've never been tempted to climb Everest. To each his own. We live in a society in which people are free to be adventurers, even when the deck is stacked against them.

But kids should grow up first.

I understand that many people are concerned that today's generation is being raised by worriers like me — helicopter parents who are afraid to let go of their children. □



Stuck on Stupid: Obama's Czar Fetish

Michelle Malkin

Here is the Obama Disaster Management Theory: In times of crisis, you can never have enough unelected, un-vetted political appointees hanging around. Nearly two months after the BP oil spill, the White House will now name an oil spill restoration point person to oversee recovery efforts in the Gulf of Mexico. Too many czars have already spoiled this administration's credibility. Might as well pile on another. The new oil spill czar is not to be mistaken for the old oil spill czar, U.S. Coast Guard Admiral Thad Allen, who was officially designated the "National Incident Commander of the Unified Command for the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico" on April 30. Allen was appointed by Department of Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano 10 days after the disaster, which Napolitano claimed the administration had been on top of since, um, "Day One."

Fifty-six days later, President Obama has deemed the leadership skills of Allen, Napolitano, Energy Secretary Steven Chu, environmental czar Carol Browner, Interior Secretary Ken Salazar and the rest of his self-declared "all hands on deck" crew insufficient. The new disaster czar also comes on top of the "National Commission on the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill and Offshore Drilling," created by executive order on May 22 and "tasked with providing recommendations on how we

can prevent and mitigate the impact of any future spills that result from offshore drilling."

As I've noted before regarding Obama's czar-mania, this White House has bypassed the Senate advise-and-consent role and unilaterally created a two-tiered government. It's fronted by cabinet secretaries able to withstand public scrutiny (some of them just barely) and then managed behind the scenes by shadow secretaries with broad powers beyond congressional reach. Bureaucratic chaos serves as a useful smokescreen to obscure the true source of policy decision-making. While past administrations dating back to the Nixon era have designated such "superaides," none has exploited and extended the concept as widely as Obama has (we're up to the 40th appointed czar, by Washington-based watchdog group Judicial Watch's count). It's government by proxy and government by press release all rolled into one.

According to White House spokesman Robert Gibbs, the latest commissar will have the power to oversee government efforts "to increase the health and the vitality of the species there, the wildlife and the natural beauty that we all know is the Gulf of Mexico." This will make the power-grabbing environmental lobby happy. And the new czar appointment will feed the photo-op-hungry news cycle. But instead of rushing to move "past the cleanup and response phase of this disaster," shouldn't this czar-crazy regime concentrate

on the immediate mitigation tasks at hand?

Folks in the Gulf don't need any more Romanov-style apparatchiks or blue-ribbon crony panels to show them the way toward relief. Florida public officials and foreign shippers say the protectionist Jones Act is preventing vessels from abroad from providing cleanup aid. And Louisiana GOP Gov. Bobby Jindal has exposed White House obstructionism and delays in approving the construction of barrier walls to stop the oil spread.

After waiting weeks for approval, Jindal received a green light from the White House to put up just five barrier islands — a minuscule amount of his plan. Tired of waiting for approval of the rest of his plan, Jindal this week ordered the National Guard to circumvent the Beltway foot-dragging and start building the walls immediately.

Executive leadership doesn't need to be outsourced when the executive in office knows how to lead. While Obama squawks, Jindal acts. While Washington appoints more gasbags, the National Guard is dropping sandbags. The president's czar fetish is his crisis crutch — a desperate, public relations habit that he can't break. What 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue needs is a visit from retired Army Lt. Gen. Russel Honore, the Hurricane Katrina military relief coordinator who offered timeless and timely advice for the disaster-stricken: Don't get stuck on stupid. □

En Colombia

Candidato vicepresidencial oficialista denuncia proteccionismo de EEUU

BOGOTÁ (Reuters) - Sectores sindicales y políticos de Estados Unidos se oponen a un acuerdo de libre comercio con Colombia por una postura proteccionista que se excusa en los derechos humanos, denunció el miércoles el candidato oficialista a la vicepresidencia del país andino. Angelino Garzón es el compañero de fórmula del candidato presidencial del Partido de la U, Juan Manuel Santos, ex ministro de Defensa del presidente Alvaro Uribe y favorito para ganar el domingo la segunda vuelta de la elección presidencial al líder del Partido Verde, Antanas Mockus. Colombia y Estados Unidos firmaron en el 2006 un Tratado de Libre Comercio clave para el desarrollo económico del país andino, pero aún se encuentra pendiente de su ratificación en el Congreso por la oposición de los demócratas y La Federación Americana del Trabajo-Congreso de Organizaciones Industriales AFL-CIO (por sus siglas en inglés). Los demócratas y los sindicatos protestan por la violencia contra los líderes obreros y los defensores de derechos humanos, víctimas de ataques por parte de grupos armados ilegales vinculados con los escuadrones paramilitares que los asocian con la guerrilla izquierdista. “Un sector del Partido



Los candidatos a la presidencia de Colombia Antanas Mockus (izquierda) y Juan Manuel Santos se dan la mano durante un debate en Bogotá, jun 15 2010. REUTERS/Jose Miguel Gomez (COLOMBIA)

Demócrata de los Estados Unidos y los sindicatos de los Estados Unidos han tomado como pretexto el tema de los derechos humanos para esconder una política proteccionista que tienen”, dijo Garzón en una entrevista con Reuters. “Una política proteccionista es la que está impidiendo que el Congreso de los Estados Unidos apruebe el Tratado de Libre Comercio con Colombia y lo digo con todo cariño y con todo respeto”, afirmó. Garzón, hijo de una humilde vendedora

de plaza de mercado que se destacó como dirigente sindical y se convirtió luego en ministro de Trabajo, Santos, miembro de una destacada familia que fue

del Valle y embajador ante las Naciones Unidas, trabaja en la misma campaña con Santos, miembro de una destacada familia que fue

educado en universidades de Estados Unidos e Inglaterra. Ambos fueron compañeros de gabinete del ex presidente conservador Andrés Pastrana, que gobernó entre 1998 y el 2002. El Gobierno de Uribe, quien entregará el poder el próximo 7 de agosto a su sucesor, sostiene que en los ocho años de gestión logró reducir la violencia contra los dirigentes obreros y los defensores de los derechos humanos. Sin embargo, la Confederación Sindical Internacional (CSI) reveló recientemente que en el 2009 el país con más trabajadores asesinatos a nivel mundial fue Colombia con 48, aunque el Gobierno refutó la cifra y solo admitió 28. El candidato a la vicepresidencia dijo que Estados Unidos tiene una deuda moral y ética con Colombia por el retraso en la aprobación del acuerdo comercial que también tiene la oposición de sectores sindicales y de izquierda del país sudamericano. □

Brasil y Perú firman acuerdo de integración energética

MANAUS (AP) - (AP) _ Los presidentes de Brasil y Perú firmaron el miércoles un acuerdo de integración energética que contempla la construcción de plantas hidroeléctricas y una interconexión a través de la selva amazónica. El convenio firmado por los presidentes Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, de Brasil, y Alan García, de Perú, prevé el desarrollo de plantas hidroeléctricas en territorio peruano con la posibilidad de transferir al país vecino parte de los excedentes de la electricidad generada. Los dos gobernantes defendieron las iniciativas energéticas en una área ecológicamente sensible como la Amazonia, al señalar que la energía hidroeléctrica es la más barata y limpia cuando se compara con aquella generada con carbón o combustibles fósiles. □

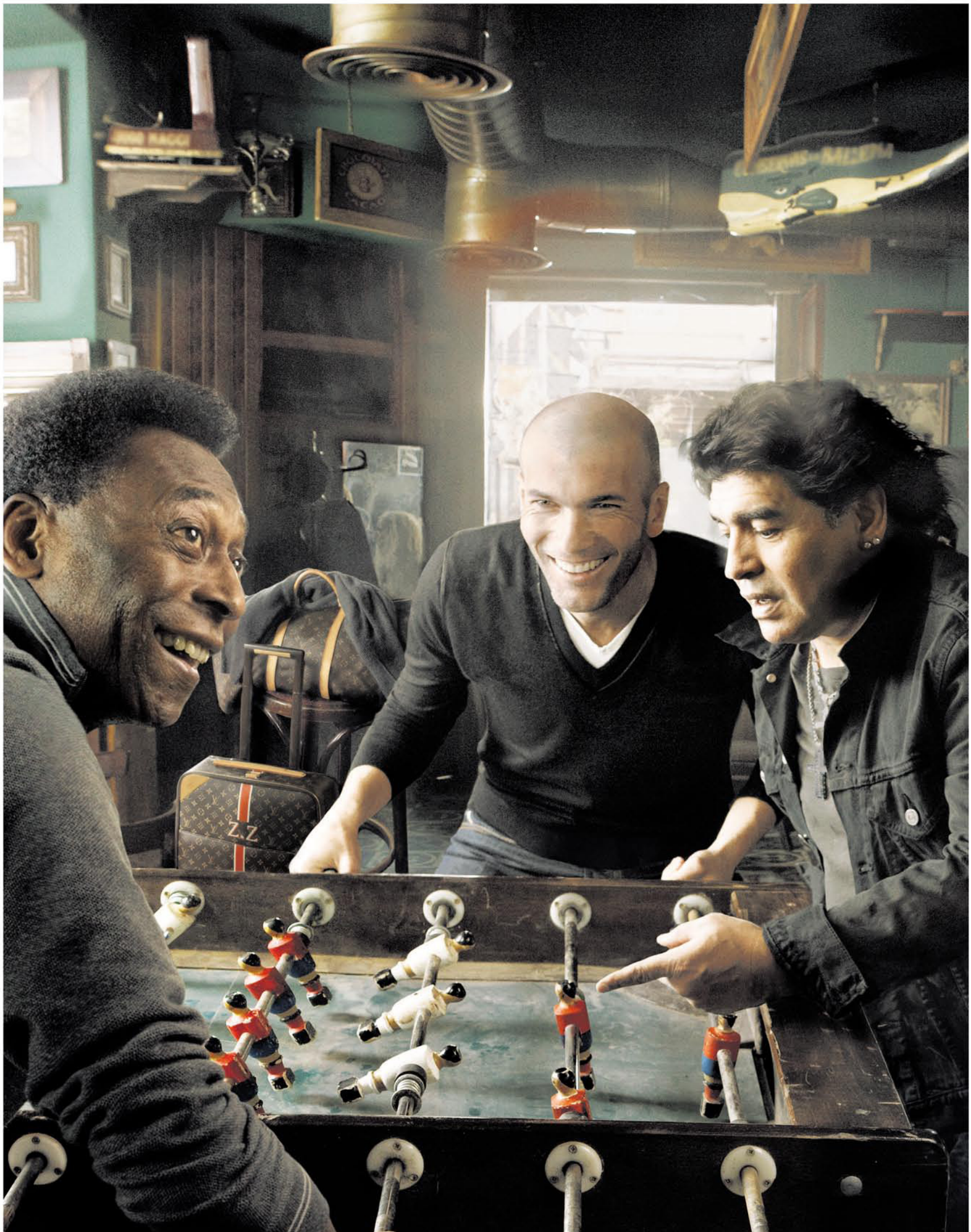
CIDH: Libertad de prensa puede empeorar en Venezuela

WASHINGTON (AP) - Las condiciones de la libertad de expresión en Venezuela pueden empeorar antes de las elecciones legislativas de septiembre, dijo el miércoles la relatora de la Comisión Interamericana de Derechos Humanos (CIDH) Catalina Botero durante una audiencia en el Congreso estadounidense. “Hemos visto acoso creciente estos días. Las cosas tal vez empeoren. Sí”, dijo Botero, relatora especial para la Libertad de Expresión, al responder a una pregunta sobre la libertad de prensa durante la campaña electoral, formulada por el representante demócrata Eliot Engel, presidente de la subcomisión de Asuntos Internacionales en el Hemisferio Occidental. “Venezuela está corriendo rápidamente hacia límites intolerables, pero todavía es posible echar para atrás”, agregó Botero, ante una consulta del representante republicano Connie Mack sobre el estado de la democracia en Venezuela. Tras su comparecencia, Botero dijo a

reporteros que en Venezuela “la situación es grave, pero es reversible. Las autoridades necesitan comenzar a adoptar los compromisos internacionales adquiridos por el Estado venezolano”.

El presidente de RCTV, Marcel Granier, coincidió con Botero en que la situación de la democracia venezolana es “reversible”. “La oposición está haciendo un gran esfuerzo, pese a que la Guardia Nacional se ha convertido en un partido, y tiene efectivos que militan en el partido oficialista”, dijo a reporteros después de comparecer como testigo.

La audiencia, que prestó especial atención al caso venezolano, se hizo pocos días después de que los dos principales accionistas de la televisora opositora Globovisión abandonaran Venezuela al enfrentar procesos penales. El presidente Hugo Chávez negó estar “persiguiendo” a Guillermo Zuloaga y Nelson Mezerhane y los instó a presentarse ante la justicia. □



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